

CENTRE OF CRIMINOLOGY
LIBRARY

VOL. 11 NO. 2

COMMUNICATOR

ISSN
0381-095X

SPRINGHILL NS

APRIL 84





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2025 with funding from
University of Toronto

<https://archive.org/details/31761075965111>

Dear Pierre:

Springhill Institution

Yesterday, I went to S.I.S. to exchange some of my dirty clothes, however, it was to my dismay that I was refused the exchange of a pair of Stanfields. Apparently, they were too dirty, racing stripes and all. I asked why I couldn't have them exchanged. Was told that no-one would want them. Well, I saw as hell don't and there's no way I can get them exchanged until they are a little cleaner and it just so happens, that they can't get any cleaner until there's exchange as it stands now, I have to go around wearing these dirty Stanfields. By bringing this to your attention, I hope you can do something about this.

Yours Truly
#2 Calvin Klein

F.T.S.

ATLANTIC WHOLESALESALEERS

HEAD OFFICE
SACKVILLE, N.B.

'Serving The Maritimes'
grocery distributors to the independant
Retail Trade

INTRODUCTION

When, we at the COMMUNICATOR decided to put together an "Impressive" and "Special" edition of the COMMUNICATOR, we tried to capture some sense of "freshness" and of course, "originality". As in many other areas, it is generally true that "there is nothing new under the sun" when it comes to ideas and emotions. Our basic Aim was to present our readers and the so called "Heavies", that we are serious and most determine to keep the COMMUNICATOR, "Alive and Going". The obstacles we encountered were many, however, this didn't stop us from giving up, as a matter of fact, it only increased the incentive to go on. These are merely a few obstacles we had to overcome: A New Publication Board Members Were Appointed, A Totally Different Administration, And Once Again - Financial Difficulty, A Lack of Response From the Population, And Also a Lack of Response From The Administration (my assumption there is based on the fact that they would not hire any other inmate to work here at the COMMUNICATOR) and the list can go on and on.

While preparing this Issue, along the way, some of our staff members abandoned the ship. One was released two months ago. It was he who is responsible for designing the COVER, and there were times when he kindly gave and shared his ideas for the many articles in this issue. The Cover by the way, was taken from one of his paintings, it was our idea that we offer a totally different presentation to our Readers and that being the COVER. The other Contributing Editor has also left the ship awhile back. His contributions has also left a "Mark" on the COMMUNICATOR. In light of this, he had promised to keep contributing to the COMMUNICATOR. So all is not lost.

Before I close off, I would like to thank all the people who contributed to the COMMUNICATOR. People like Michael A. Lanza, Jack L. Anderson, John A. Thompson, Sr., Ted Gorman, Pugwash Project Group, and many other people. I also appreciate the Support we got from our Readers, People like Mrs. Marie Ottosen, Jeffrey Azzahle and our Inmate Committee.

You will, I hope, enjoy opening this package.

Sincerely,



F Sylliboy #3554

.....

COVER -- The design of the cover was taken from a painting done by John MacCallum. The Cover, itself, is symbolic to Spring.

.....

P.S. Because of the limited space we had, we didn't include the Table of Contents. So, please treat this package as a Surprise.

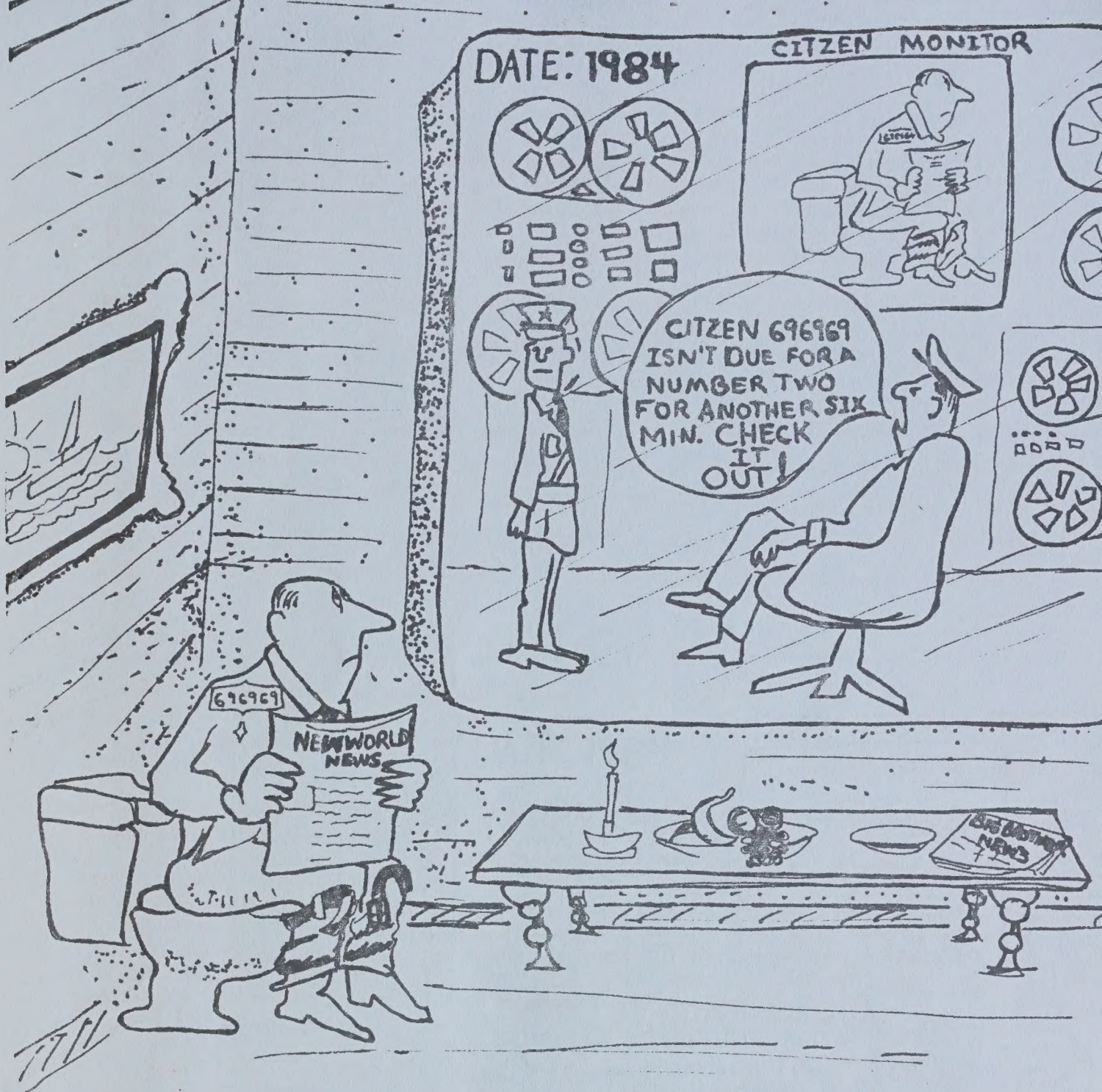
.....

CENSORSHIP - No person in authority over prisoners necessarily agrees with the opinions expressed herein, although, they do allow us to publish providing no staff names are used in a negative context and opinions do not get passed off as facts.

.....

"In light of our efforts to alleviate overcrowding in prisons, I take an especially dim view of your little scam."





EDITORIAL

This year has a special significance for anyone who has read George Orwell's classic novel "1984". Nineteen eighty-four is not only the number of this year. Since 1949, it has been the name of a perennial best seller by a English Socialist named ERIC BLAIR, who wrote under the name of GEORGE ORWELL... In 1984, Orwell sketched a chilling vision of the future as he saw it. When he wrote, 1984 was remote 35 years away, Now that it has arrived, we are fascinated to compare Orwell's description of the future with today's real world.

Orwell wrote of a world so full of government control, that citizens had no freedom whatsoever. A total POLICE STATE, with huge computer data banks containing comprehensive files on every citizen. Critics on the "outside" are now saying, with some relief, how wrong Orwell was in his prediction of 1984. But, we, the prisoners of the Society, have a very different view. For it is a view of fiction growing into REALITY...

The POLICE STATE exist, or at least the structure of LAWS necessary to implement it, EXISTS. Worst of all, the average citizen seems not to care or even be aware. They are paying to support an extremely repressive and harmful system, but just as long as they don't have to see it or hear about it, they are content to keep flushing TAX DOLLARS down it.

Con't

If you have followed the News Headlines like I have, then you probably have heard that there is a major policy statement due from the Solicitor General. Sentencing guidelines for Judges and new goals plus regulations for the present PRISON SYSTEM to follow in dealing with incarcerated Persons. One may wonder if they are finally going to make POSITIVE changes in the current Prison System???

Well, I'm afraid not! However, the changes that are being made are a result from a poll that says "THE SOCIETY FEELS CRIMINALS ARE TREATED TOO SOFTLY". I guess it is true that the Society can be extremely PUNITIVE to people who breaks its RULES...

"IMAGINE A ROOM THE SIZE OF AN ELEVATOR, FURNISHED WITH A BED, A SINK AND A TOILET. IMAGINE NOW, BEING CONFINED TO THAT ELEVATOR FOR FIVE OR TEN YEARS, OR EVEN FOR FIVE DAYS. YOU CANNOT, FOR UNLESS YOU HAVE LIVED IT, FELT IT, REALLY EXPERIENCED IT, YOU CANNOT UNDERSTAND THE EMOTIONAL IMPACT A PRISON HAS UPON A PERSON."

The only change the Solicitor General has made or attempted to do so, was hiring a Public Relations Firm in Toronto to give him a "BETTER IMAGE" to the Society. By the way, if you're interested, it cost \$43,000 which, of course, came from the Taxpayer's pockets.

Are we expected to sit around, while they spend \$100,000's each year for the advice of Trained Specialists in Penology and Criminology? Is this advise and Scientific Research providing the Basis or Bases for Policy Changes? No! I'm afraid not, however, the changes are made according to the Voter's Polls; people who have not been inside a prison or even any knowledge of prisons. It is from these polls that determine the prison policies and its changes. Nevertheless, it seems to make sense to the Politicians, on the other hand, what good are a handful of Specialists in Penology and Criminology when they represent only a handful of votes. What counts is the people on the street, who will provide enough votes to keep the BLESSED POLITICIAN in OFFICE.

If your car broke down, would you take a poll to find out what people felt was wrong with the car? No, I suspect you would take it to the Specialist, who is Trained and Familiar with the operations of the car. Now, had you been elected by these people, to drive this car and were paid well by them, then it is likely, you would be more interested in making them feel important, by listening to their ASSUMPTIONS. Nevertheless, you'll still have to go to the Experts to have the car run again.

Today, our Prison System has broken down just like the car. Unfortunately, the Solicitor General is the Driver, whom is elected by the people on the street. His concern, is to keep the people happy so he can continue to drive. But eventually, he's going to have go to the experts. However, the experts disagree with what the people feel about what is wrong with the current prison system. Not too many informed experts would agree that the current prison system is too 'soft on the Prisoners. In fact, many would say that the system is harsh and that most persons should not be in it. Does it make sense to sentence a person a X number of years for stealing maybe a few dollars, when it cost about 40 thousand plus a year to keep him locked up?

So, you can see the problem the Solicitor General has, he could easily implement real reforms and improve the current prison system, on the other hand, he can re-act to public polls to gain votes. The reforms, if they were introduced, would not produce results overnight and this probably would be unpopular with the voters. In fact, it would take several years to see if any changes made, have a positive effect on the current prison system.

We Need Better Medicine!

Fred F. Sylliboy
Editor

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Hello! Enclosed you should find four (4) poems, also one S.A.S.E.

I wonder if I could get a back issue or so (as samples), I'm afraid I've not yet seen your Publication, although, a couple different people have suggested I send something along to you in the past, but I just never got around to it. I usually like to see what a place is doing first, so as to make better judgments regarding my submissions.

Anyway, I began publishing with the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR (Jan. 1975), and have been a fairly regular contributor since. Other publications include THE POETRY SOCIETY OF AMERICA BULLETIN, JOINT CONFERENCE, THE GREENFIELD REVIEW, COSMEP PRISON PROJECT NEWSLETTER, PRISON WRITING REVIEW, INSIDE/OUT, KITE, and a couple anthologies: "Born Into A Felony", "Kicking Their Hells With Freedom", and I am expecting work out with Confrontation and they are as follows: "Second Coming", "Santa Fe Poetry and The Arts", I am also expecting another GREENFIELD REVIEW anthology - "The Light From Another Country", as well as, some of the above.

Guess that's about all I can say for now. Take Care! Peace.

Sincerely,

Jack L. Anderson (C-9883)
Pgh., PA

DEAR COMRADES,

SALUTATIONS IN THE NAME OF THE STRUGGLES OF ALL OPPRESSED PEOPLE. I HAVE WRITTEN THIS LETTER IN HOPES THAT I COULD RECEIVE YOUR PAPER AND ANY MATERIAL YOU MIGHT HAVE. I AM PRESENTLY INCARCERATED, IT IS VERY DIFFICULT OBTAINING PROGRESSIVE LITERATURE. I HAVE WRITTEN TO ASK OF A HELPING HAND. ANY WORK THAT IS SHARED WILL BE PAST ON TO THE NEXT MAN WHO IS IN NEED, SO POSSIBLY, WE CAN INSTILL ONE BROTHERHOOD "UNITY".

ANY ASSISTANCE YOU MAY BE ABLE TO EXTEND TO ME IN THIS REGARD WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED...

A. M. Munnakkil
Repressa, California

Hi Communicator People!

Just got turned on to your Prison Mag from BULLDOZER. I'd be very interested in a sample or 2. Enclosed is \$1.00 to cover expenses. Hope to be able to afford more later.

If you have anything with special emphasis on "Native Struggles" or "Women's Prison News", I'd appreciate that. Also, anything with Cartoons/ Graphics, etc... Something beyond words.

Many Thanx. Keep on Keepin on.

In the Spirit of Unity,

Sudi "Pebbles" Trippet
California Institute for Women

Dear Editor:

Congrats on keeping the COMMUNICATOR going. Its important! Was in correspondence with Bob Eby for awhile but lost contact - say "hello" to him for me and tell him to stay well, if you see him. Tell him I'm still writing, and for the most part 'still mad as hell'.

All best to you and the Communicator staff.

Sincerely, Jeffrey Azzahle
San Francisco, CA

Dear Editor:

It has been some time since we received an issue of the COMMUNICATOR, and we were wondering if you are still in production.

We, here at TIGHTWIRE, have attempted to improve the quality of our publication, so that we may seek advertisers. We feel that the July/August issue, that will be completed in two weeks, has reached this goal. It is my understanding that the COMMUNICATOR does include advertising and in order to complete my proposal to the committee, I would appreciate some information. I would need to know the rates established by your publication committee. Also suggestions or examples for the advertisements would be most helpful. You might include the names of your advertisers to give me an idea who to approach. Does anybody from the institution do any of the graphic arts?

Realizing that the information I am asking for will take some time to prepare, I would appreciate if you expect any delays, to forward the rates set by the committee for various size ads and the rest could follow at your convenience.

Thanking you in advance.

Sincerely,

Karen Franklin - Editor
Kingston, Ontario

Dear Editor:

Hello! I am an inmate at the State Correctional Institution here at Mercer, Pennsylvania. Before being transferred here, I spent five and a half years at the Western Penitentiary at which time I applied myself in the College Programs. During that time I took a course "Intro to Poetry".

I am enclosing three (3) poems for your consideration. If for any reason these do not meet your requirements, I would appreciate any and all suggestions and comments that you could offer me.

Because of a possible release, the address given is my mother's, please forward all correspondence to that address.

Thanking you for your time and attention in this concern.

Hoping to hear from you soon.

Respectfully,

John A. Thompson, Sr.
Warren, PA

SHOPPERS DRUG MART

AMHERST, N.S.

All Your Drug Store
Needs



Springhill Spring Fever

Short days and winter gloom are fading fast, with it comes renewed hope, longer days and of course warmer weather.

The hibernation syndrome caused by winter will end and we like the sports programmes will once again venture outside.

Facilities available during summer only will be re-opened and in order to acquaint new inmates with what is available, we will list these activities below together with intended organised sports.

A past proven favourite is the mini-golf putting range of nine holes, this devilishly designed range incorporates angled ways, together with fiendishly placed traps and barriers that are eminently suited to test the patience and skill of both Saints and Sinners, good players and bad.

Putting clubs and golf balls will be made available on site.

Outside sports areas are in a split recreation format, we have the grass play areas and a paved area.

Grassed areas incorporate a running track, ball-park and football field.

The paved area (which is located adjacent to the gymnasium) consists of basketball, tennis and raquetball courts.

There will be areas set aside for relocation of the weight room equipment and as well it is intended to have punching bags set up both speed and heavy.

The paved area should open around May 24th, the playing field opening is dependent on fields drying out adequately.

When outside areas open the gymnasium will be closed to indoor activities for the duration of the summer season.

Ball games will be both fast and slow pitch with competition organised on a unit vs unit basis, as will soccer matches.

Basketball teams will most likely be organised on a draft system in order to ensure equality of competition.

Tennis and raquetball matches will be on an individual and dual basis.

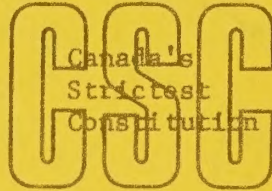
During the outdoors season there will be 4 holiday weekends scheduled for special event competitions.

The first Monday in August a special field day competition will be held, trophies will be awarded.

So roll on Summer, our wishes are for good weather, good competition, good participation, good sportsmanship and good luck to all competitors.

JOHN.H.MOORE.

THERE ARE SEVERAL REASONS WHY CONDITIONS INSIDE PRISONS MUST BE LET TO SIMULATE GENERAL CONDITIONS IN SOCIETY. THERE IS NOT LEGAL AUTHORITIES FOR ADDED PUNISHMENTS OF AN OFFENDER. THE PRISONER IS SENTENCED TO PRISON AND DEPRIVED OF HIS LIBERTY AS HIS PUNISHMENT. HE IS NOT SENT TO A PRISON TO BE PUNISHED WHILE THERE BY MYRIAD OF PETTY UNJUSTIFIED RESTRICTIONS AND CONTROLS. JUST BEING IN PRISON IS FULFILLING THE PUNISHMENT PRESCRIBED BY HIS SENTENCE. WE PUNISH AN INDIVIDUAL FOR DISRESPECTING THE LAW AND IN PUNISHING HIM, SHOW A NEAR TOTAL DISREGARD FOR HIS LEGAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS AS AN INDIVIDUAL. THIS CAN'T HELP BUT APPEAR CONFUSING TO AN INMATE...



The development of Correctional Programs is costing the Canadian taxpayer a great deal of money. So much that it is strange there is so little public demand for information on the aims of the people entrusted with spending this money. In no other area of government spending is the taxpayer so COMPLACENT with what his money is spent on. The fear of crime and criminals is allowing for a closed shop policy when it comes to Correctional Expenditures. There should be at least a partial MORATORIUM on corrections spending, to give time for a consolidation of programs under some specified common aims and goals.

In this paper I shall attempt to give an impression of what living in a Canadian Penitentiary is like. I intend to deal with the reasons there are such discrepancies between the popular view of inmate life and experience in reality. A case for increased prisoner's rights, both civil and legal shall also be presented.

No attempt at OBJECTIVITY has been made, but the awareness of personal bias is here being stated to avoid CRITICISM for this.

My personal experience is my only reference for this paper. What is contained within this paper is not that which can be found in reference works anyway. Many of the ideas may be from books I have read, but it would be impossible to quote specific pages or books. I claim these ideas to be mine insofar as anybody's thoughts can be.

Regarding my experience, several terms of incarceration in other prisons, and a current sentence of x number of years in a Federal Institution, I am confident it is more than sufficient for a paper of such limited scope as this.

Never have I had the opportunity to view a situation from two different points of view as intensely as prison life. By different points of view I mean the professional view as presented in Criminology textbooks contrasted with my personal experiences doing time.

I make no claim of personal objectivity in viewing prison life, as it would be impossible. But even allowing for my own bias, the discrepancies between descriptions of life in prisons found in standard Criminology textbooks and that which exists in reality is shocking. I have found nothing which comes close to giving the interested but uninformed reader an adequate glimpse of life as experienced by inmates in a prison. The accounts presented in texts are like the dialogue for a twenty year old B Rated Gangster Movie, or an incredible exercise in Sociological jargonizing, or worse a combination of both.

I don't intend to be too CRITICAL, but an experience as total and intense as prison incarceration, much like a religious conversion, must be experienced personally to be fully understood.

Con't

The reasons for these shocking discrepancies are difficult to pin-point. I believe there are several reasons.

A part of the discrepancies may be accounted for by the attempt to generalize the prison experience from the observation of individual prisons. A prison like any community has individual characteristics. The life of an inmate in prison differs radically from prison to prison. These individual prison characteristics arise from differences in both physical structures and aims or directions of the Correctional Staff.

The experience of doing time in a prison built a hundred years ago when punishment was the primary aim of incarceration will differ vastly from the experience in a modern prison built with considerations other than just security. This is true even if the old and the new prison implement identical programs for inmates. The physical environment will have a great deal of effect on what the prisoner will experience psychologically.

The complexity of the prison experience is compounded when we have a prison system with fluctuating aims and conflicting goals.

The vast differences in prison experiences from institution to institution make it practically impossible to present a view of prison life without dealing with each prison individually.

Another difficult breeding discrepancies in the presentation found in Criminology textbooks and the actual experiences of prison inmates is the individual prisoner. Just as each prison has certain physical and psychological traits so does each inmate. A great deal of How An Inmate Perceives His Prison Experience Is Dependant On Himself. An inmate perceives according to his past experiences, present environment and future expectations.

The attempt to CLASSIFY inmates and thereby ease the task of dealing with them is difficult. While seen as a step forward in the field of Corrections, it is also DANGEROUS. There are perhaps as many types of prisoners in a prison as there are prisoners. The tendency to assign a prisoner to one of four or five distinct groups may simplify the Classification task, but it has also led to Sociologists placing too much emphasis on the theorys of subcultures inside prisons.

If prisoners are assigned to particular groups upon entering a prison, it becomes an easy step from there to the identifications of these groups in the prison populations. It is something AKIN to a self-fulfilling prophecy. Classification Officers relying a great deal on Sociological research assign inmates to certain well defined classes with outstanding common traits. Then these same Sociological Researchers observe the prison populations and use these groups to prove their existence. I do not suggest this occurs all or even most times. It appears that it is a tendency that must be taken into account especially in a young science such as Sociology which is desperate for evidence to justify its very existence.

I will now discuss some of the options available to a person doing time. An important factor is determining how an individual will do his time is the amount of contact he or she is able to maintain with the positive elements of the life they lead before incarceration.

The prisoner may be drawn into the prison routine so totally that he may forget about the world outside. There are merits for this way of doing time. The inmate may relax and do what is referred to as easy time this way. An inmate has very few responsibilities and duties imposed on him by the institution, as well as being released from all responsibility to outside SOCIETY. In many cases, such release from or reduction in responsibility is welcomed by the inmate and he will be a model prisoner insofar as behavior in the prison is concerned. The problems may arise upon his eventual release and re-adjustment to society. Where he will have no choice but to take upon certain basic responsibilities common to all members of FREE SOCIETY.

The type of inmate who welcomes the reduction of responsibilities would be cause of developments of inmate subcultures. But according to the degree of contact maintained with his previous life and self-concept, many prisoners would place little value in inmate's CODES and/or SUBCULTURES.

Con't

It may be that prisoners serving long sentences have no alternatives but to assimilate and proliferate an inmate subculture and its attendant codes. Most prisoners, though at least those serving five years and under, are primarily concerned with the prospect of release. In fact, in most cases, prisoners are hopeful of early release on paroles and other programs. They can perceive involvement in any inmate subculture as being detrimental to gaining these objectives.

Examples of inmate's codes often cited include: DON'T RAT (inform), and DON'T BRING HEAT, (bring the attention of staff). To deny the existence of such a code would be naive. But it is also naive to surround this code with the mystique; it generally is. While these codified guidelines for inmate behavior have been firmly entrenched in our prisons, they are becoming much more important to the Sociological and Psychological researcher than to the average inmate. I don't DENY some prisoners follow and enforce an inmate code, and that enforcement may range from psychological pressure all the way to violence in its extremist forms. These prisoners are mostly men who have been either involved in the prison systems for many years or youngsters who idolize such men. The newer inmates generally pay little more than lip service to most elements of inmate codes. It is important to note that I said most elements of the inmate codes as I do believe some sections of inmates codes are followed by nearly all inmates and shall continue to be followed and enforced. The mistake commonly made in attempting to understand these codes is stressing the fact that they are inmate codes; and not realizing that a code similar may be found in most ANY-CLOSED-SOCIETY, such as a Boarding School or Police Academy.

THESE CODES, FOR THE MOST PART, TYPIFY EXPECTED BEHAVIOR PATTERNS FOUND IN SOCIETY. ESPECIALLY IN TODAY'S SOCIETY WITH ITS INCREASING DISPLAY OF HOSTILITY TOWARDS THE POLICE, GOVERNMENT, AND AUTHORITY IN GENERAL...

In my present experience, and I must qualify this with respect to my previous statements, which is in a medium security penitentiary. I see very little evidence of a standard code of behavior peculiar to inmates. In fact, one aspect of the code which is prevalent is "DO YOUR OWN TIME" or more precisely, MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS. This can be and is expanded to mean, do what you wish to ease or shorten your time as long as you don't affect any other inmate.

There is much emphasis placed on inmate's codes and such in Sociological reviews of prison life, but most of the mystique of inmate codes would vanish once you've lived by one. Predominately, common courtesy and common sense make up whatever code is evident. It is not perceived as a code by prisoners, and I'm sure any large group of individuals would in comparable settings, behave much the same way.

This may be hard to swallow in light of the popular conceptions of prison life. In this particular prison, I have witnessed a minimum of violence over the past twenty months.

It may be some specific conditions particular to this institution that make it radically different from others. As I've already said, "its impossible to generalize through out the system." So, perhaps, my statements would not ring very true for the prison experience in any other prisons in Canada.

Con't

PIED PIPER

MOTEL

On your way relaxation

HOUSEKEEPING UNITS FOR YOUR PRIVACY

LOWER NAPPAN

PHONE 667-3891

This institution is following what is called the LIVING UNIT approach to incarceration. That is the inclusion of a non-uniformed staff member in close proximity to the inmates at all times. An increase in interaction between the staff and inmates occurs and results in a lessening of hostilities between the groups due to closer contact and personal involvement.

LOCKING SOMEONE UP SERVES ONLY TO ISOLATE HIM FROM SOCIETY. Except for protection of Society from dangerous offenders, simply locking someone up serves no useful purpose and provides no benefits for the individual or Society. Our prisons must move towards maintaining an environment which, while segregating the offender from Society in general, also simulate to him the positive aspects of that same Society he is being segregated from.

There are several reasons why conditions inside prisons must be let to simulate general conditions in Society. There is not legal authorities for added punishments of an offender. The prisoner is sentenced to prison and deprived of his LIBERTY as his PUNISHMENT. He is not sent to a prison to be punished while there by a MYRIAD of petty unjustified restrictions and controls. Just being in prison is fulfilling the punishment prescribed by his sentence. We punish an individual for disrespecting the LAW and in punishing him, show a near total disregard for his LEGAL and HUMAN RIGHTS as an INDIVIDUAL. This can't help but appear confusing to an inmate.

The Primary Goals of our prisons should be two-fold. One Goal is to DEMONSTRATE the positive aspects of involvement of the individual in our Society. This may be achieved by not creating a sub-culture of criminals inside our prisons, but a mini-society, reflective of our general Society. With individual liberty and input, to teach the inmate with close guidance from highly trained staff, the methods to achieve goals within Society's acceptable standards.

Secondly, our prisons must try and provide assistance to the inmate reintegrating himself back into the larger free Society. These two goals are compatible and within the range of our existing system. I am sure our success rate would be just as high if we concentrated on such goals, as it is now with our jungle of existing programs and aims.

Politically speaking, what we are now doing, is attempting to teach people to live in a democracy, while they suffer under fascist control. Inmates are people who for various reasons have already demonstrated they have difficulty functioning within the guidelines of acceptable behavior in our Society.

We must attempt to train them to cope with their difficulties. The way we are currently proceeding is nothing more than training people how to exist in a POLICE STATE. We will succeed in producing fine fascists and potential revolutionaries, but extremely poor citizens for participation in a democratic Society.

The idea to approximate social conditions inside an institution as near to Free Society as possible is not just for comfort of the inmates. As well as being necessary for the development of social responsibility in the inmate, FREER conditions inside prisons would give more validity to the use of staff observations of inmate behavior to predict probability of success or failure in readjustment to society. Many observations of the prisoner's institutional behavior are made by correctional staff and used extensively as yardsticks for measuring suitability for release and the optimum time of release. The stricter the control of inmates inside a correctional facility, the more artificial their behavior and the less useful observation of that behavior become in assessing offenders.

To have a more useful measure for predicting and inmates probability of success upon release, we must produce conditions inside our prisons which compare to a free Society. We would allow of course for whatever restrictions in movement which are necessary for maintaining the security of the prisons. Perhaps much of this goal could be achieved by advanced training of correctional staff and more work in the area of security classifications so no physical changes need take place in existing prison structures...

Signed...
J. T. S.

LABOUR POOL PROJECT

This innovative program first commenced at the McGill Institute during mid-November 1982. It involves a group of inmates working on approved community projects. Those who qualify for day parole presently are working on the construction of a house, including driveway, brick work, gardening, etc. The project is being called "Inmate's Dream Home". Pay rate is set at \$5-35 per day but the program is not to make money but to give inmate's the opportunity to be able to establish credibility and build up their release and parole plans.

Presently there are 10 inmates listed on labour pool, the project is expanding and more inmates are being added. These inmates are employed on an experimental basis and are being used to provide a positive example to the halfway houses or Sand river etc.

An example and positive illustration of the project's worth is of an inmate lifer who could have expected perhaps to wait another three years or so to gain parole, working with the labour pool for one year he gained sufficient recognition and credibility to then receive his parole.

Ben Legere has been involved since the project's inception he is the Institutional co-ordinator, this involves amongst other things organising pay, providing transportation and ensuring inmates meals are provided.

John Mont of the Parole Service (also Pugwash group liaison officer) is the community based representative, responsible for project promotion and follow up, he is also a most enthusiastic project supporter.

Any interested inmates who are sincere and motivated by the projects positive potential should see their range officer for application forms.

There is a strong possibility of forty inmates being required around late August/early September for the project. Targeted to be based on work done but estimated potential individual's earnings may top \$1,000 for the period.

JOHN H. MOORE

FOR THE BEST IN
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Amherst Music Center Ltd.

53 Victoria Street - Amherst, N.S. (403-2911)

GUITARS
ORGANS
AMPS
BANJOS
VIOLINS
AUTO HARP
HARMONICAS
MANDOLINS
MIKES
METRONOMES
TUNERS
CALL
TAMBOURINES
STRINGS & ACC.



AND
REPAIRS

BRAND NAMES

FAMOUS
FENDER
FISHMAN
FISHMAN
FISHMAN
FISHMAN
FISHMAN
FISHMAN
FISHMAN
FISHMAN

CONTACT

MARK LOU or STEVEN DWYER

GUESS WHICH COUNTRY HAS LEGALISED POT.
(No it;s not Canada)

Spain's popular rock singer Miguel Rios was about to go on stage recently at Madrid's packed Rayo Vallecano stadium. In the throng of friends and well-wishers gathered backstage, a uniformed policeman spotted a well-known singer and asked for her autograph. The singer accepted the policeman's pen and asked him to hold her porro, a thick joint of marijuana. The policeman took a long toke and beckoned to a colleague. As the two puffed away, a friend of the rock star embraced them. "This," he declared, "is the true democracy." Recently Spain became the first nation in Europe to legalise the use of cannabis. New penal-code reforms proposed by the Socialist government eliminate jail sentences of up to 12 years for people caught using "soft drugs" although punishment remains severe for dealers and users of hard drugs such as heroin and cocaine.

So far, the new drug law has been well recieved. Criticism from Spain's rightist opposition groups has been suprisingly muted, and the Roman Catholic Church has virtually ignored the whole issue. But some Spaniards fear that the rules may soon trigger a sharp increase in smuggling. Young Spaniard's have long dabbled in small-scale trafficking, and with jail tems for those convicted of cannabis offences now reduced to six months, that fear appears to be well founded.

"I,d love to turn you on," how well I remember those lyrics from a track on the Beatles Sergeant Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band album. Halycon times they were, revolutionary messages for peace, love, freedom of thought and the right to do your own thing. Yes, the times were a changing or so we thought, Woodstock, love-ins, catch on, turn on, higher and higher.

The sixties music scene, far out, get in the groove, what a profound and lasting impact it was to have on so many lives. I for one was a glad recipient of the message in fact recieved and practiced it with almost messianic fervour.

But of course we soon found out that what we wanted to do and what the powers that be were going to allow us to do were two different things. As time wore on and the innocence of youth was dissipating, we faced the responsibilities of earning a living and having to come to terms with society as it really was. The one overriding belief that many of us felt was the right to be able to do what we wanted providing it caused no harm to others.

Our prophets were the Beatles, Stones, Dillon, Hendrix, Joplin, and many others, they led and we followed.

Today after almost twenty years having passed, what has changed, wars and killings go on unabated, dog eats dog, brother fights brother and Canada still classifies marijuana as a narcotic. So much for the enlightened age and the realisation of personal freedoms. Despite the two Royal Commissions sponsored over the last decade by the Government into marijuana use, and findings that almost unanimously recommended decriminalisation at the minimum, with support for legalisation, little has changed here. Thousands of people continue to be charged with cannabis offences. Many are imprisoned for outrageous lengths of time for practicing their belief that, having supposedly been born free was it unreasonable to expect as their birthright that they be allowed to find their own way to happiness provided they did not harm others.

What went wrong?, what became of our dreams and visions?, should they be consigned to the cesspool of destroyed idealism as false expectations?.

Should we or should we not be allowed to smoke pot, (irrespective of the Law saying no, the number of people who smoke it regularly continues to increase) that question by itself is not so important, but what is significant is should any individual have the audacity, gall and sheer effrontery to say you cannot. Never mind that not one conclusive result from exhaustive scientific research and experiments has shown that pot smoking remotely equals the damage caused by tobacco and alcohol ingestion. Hypocrisy, prejudices and ignorance still reign supreme in the fossilised powers that be.

But not everywhere it seems, Spain by having the courage and honesty to legalise, has become Europes leading light in facing the inevitable reality.

Due to be shortly admitted to Common Market membership, Spain will join such illustrious company as England, France, Germany, Italy, and others who will then need to address the issue of just where they stand on marijuana, as the foundation of Common Market membership is one of consensus and uniformity of policy.

Is it not time for us to face reality too, pot is here to stay, continued repression and incarceration of offenders does not serve society, it's creating embittered and potentially vengeful citizens, whose only crime in essence, was to wan't to be happy.

Whom Do You See?



How To Stay Young

Youth is not a time of life... It is a state of Mind.
Nobody grows old by merely living a number
of years; people grow old only by deserting
their ideals. Years wrinkle the skin, but to give up
enthusiasm, wrinkles the soul. Worry, Doubt,
Self-distrust, Fear and Despair: these are the
long, long years that bow the head and turn
the growing spirit back to dust.

Whether seventy or sixteen, there is in every being's
heart - the love of wonder, the sweet amazement at the
stars and the starlike things and thoughts,
the undaunted challenge of events, the unfailing
childlike appetite for what's next, and the joy
and the Game of Life.

You are as Young as your Faith, as Old as your Doubt;
as Young as your Self-confidence, as Old as your Fear;
as Young as Your Hope, as Old as Your Despair...

SOLAR HEATING in prison

Most of us would have noticed the strange apparatus in place on the roof of number nine living unit.

For those who may not have devined it's purpose we can now reveal all, the square shaped inclined objects (wait for it) are in fact solar heating panels.

The initial idea for a solar heating system was proposed by the Department of Public Works and number 9 unit was selected for the trial installation.

Upon the system being installed and ready to commence operations, it was discovered (apparently by the Dep't of Public Works) that the contractors had installed the solar panels so that instead of facing South, a requirement for optimum exposure to the sun, they had incorrectly aligned them facing to the East, where they would receive minimum sun exposure.

This error must have caused no small degree of embarrassment to all parties especially as someone would have to assume responsibility for paying the costs that would be incurred in dissassembling and reassembling the installation.

After some investigation the contractors accepted liability, thereupon with diligent application they eventually succeeded in effecting a correct siting.

In mitigation, rumour has it that the contractors confused unit 9 for unit 8, where that alignment would have been correct.

The function of the system is to provide the hot water supplied to unit 9, it finally commenced operating in October 1983, subsequent operations proving quite satisfactory.

Initial construction costs are not known by us but apparently the pay-back break even point will not be reached for around forty years.

Conducting routine maintenance and replacing parts when necessary, the system will have an indefinite life expectancy, (although it may be debated as to whether the institution will).

There remains the possibility of the other three living units having solar heating installed at a future date.

Basically the system works on a water drain-back principal, whereupon at a preselected drop in temperature the water drains back into a drain-back tank and the system reverts to conventional power heating.

A sensor detects when outside temperature has risen sufficiently for solar heating to work effectively, this in turn will trigger the automatic pumping of cold water into the heat collectors, from there it's fed into a convertor where it's heated prior to entering the domestic hot water supply.

The solar heating plant will work in direct sunlight and/or a sufficient temperature level.

By and by any reduction in the use of fossil fuels is to be encouraged and we hope the first solar heating plant in operation here proves it's worth and will be expanded.

JOHN . H . MOORE .

Sharon's Restaurant
Lower Main St. SPRINGHILL, N.S.
597-2334
PIZZA with a real Italian taste
stacked SUBMARINES
Hot Sandwiches
great coffee!
Friendly Atmosphere

Was Leonard Peltier Framed?

THE NIGHT BEFORE AMERICAN INDIAN ACTIVIST LEONARD PELTIER WAS EXTRADITED FROM CANADA IN 1976, A SMALL GROUP OF NATIVE PROTESTERS BEAT TOM-TOMS IN PROTEST OUTSIDE OAKALLA CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTE IN BURNABY, B.C. THE PROTESTERS WERE CONVINCED THAT PELTIER, WHO WAS BEING RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES TO FACE CHARGES OF MURDERING TWO FBI AGENTS, WOULD NOT GET A FAIR TRIAL IN HIS HOME COUNTRY. STILL, THE CANADIAN AUTHORITIES EXTRADITED PELTIER TO SOUTH DAKOTA, WHERE HE WAS CONVICTED OF MURDER...

Now, after serving five years of DOUBLE LIFE sentence in an Illinois prison for Indians, Peltier's lawyers have uncovered new documents which they say indicate that the FBI deliberately presented false evidence and suppressed other evidence that would have helped established Peltier's innocence. Further, the documents raise questions about the handling of Peltier's extradition from Canada.

The documents are contained in 12,000 pages of classified FBI material obtained through U.S. Freedom of Information Laws which Peltier's lawyers are using to back up demands for a new trial. They say the FBI's desire to get Peltier convicted was best illustrated by one chilling statement in an FBI memo urging investigators to "develop information to lock Peltier...into this case."

The killing of the two FBI agents took place during a shootout on June 26, 1975, on South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation--the scene of a bitter showdown at WOUNDED KNEE two years earlier between federal agents and members of the American Indian Movement. Afterward, Peltier fled to Canada but was arrested near Jasper, Alberta, in February, 1976.

His four-week extradition hearing in Vancouver aroused concern and support among Canadian Indians. Peltier argued at the time that the FBI was trying to FRAME Indian Activists and intimidate witnesses to testify against him. His claims were later bolstered by a 1981 report of Amnesty International, which accused the FBI of fabricating evidence against Indian Leaders.

But Peltier's claim won little sympathy in the Canadian Courts. The case against him appeared strong--the U.S. Government was able to present the extradition hearing with two affidavits from an Indian woman named MYRTLE POOR BEAR who claimed that she was Peltier's girlfriend and that she saw him shoot the agents.

Still, it was only after the Canadian Court ordered Peltier's extradition that one of his lawyers, Don Rosenbloom, learned that the FBI was hiding an earlier affidavit when the shooting occurred. Rosenbloom appealed the extradition, but it was denied and Peltier was deported.

Despite personal appeals, then Justice Minister Ron Basford signed Peltier's extradition order.

Still, the suppression of the first affidavit has left lingering questions about the handling of the extradition. Paul William Halprin, a respected Crown Attorney employed by the Canadian Justice Department, who represented the United States at the extradition hearing, denies knowing anything about the first affidavit at the time.

Halprin says that if he had known about it, he definitely would have introduced it as evidence, even though "it wouldn't have done it (our case) any good." His position is confirmed, he says, by the results of an investigation by the U.S. Government.

But Halprin is put in an uncomfortable position by an FBI document obtained through the U.S. Freedom of Information Act which tries to shift blame onto Canadian Officials.

An internal FBI Teletype message claims that "it was upon Halprin's recommendation with the concurrence of special prosecutors Evan L. Hultman and Robert Sikma that only Myrtle Poor Bear's second and third affidavits were used in the Peltier's extradition."

Con't

Was Leonard Peltier Framed? - Con't

Then, when Poor Bear subsequently testified at Peltier's trial in the United States, she said that she had never met him, that all three affidavits were false, and that the FBI had coerced her into signing them. Her revelations prompted a U.S. Judge in the case to CRITICIZE the FBI and the U.S. Prosecutors for pressuring her to add to her statements in order to get Peltier extradited from Canada. But the Trial Judge refused to let the Jury at Peltier's trial hear her evidence that the FBI had forced her to give evidence against him.

Peltier and his Lawyers argued that the way the U. S. prosecution handled the Poor Bear's affidavits was indicative of the way the entire case was handled and they insist that the recently obtained documents substantiate their contention. Perhaps the most crucial question raised by the documents concerns the suppression of ballistics evidence.

At the Trial the FBI Experts testified that the gun reported to be Peltier's was too BADLY DAMAGED TO UNDERGO THE MOST DECISIVE BALLISTICS TEST--a "firing pin" test. The experts added that a less conclusive test established a probable connection between the gun and a key bullet casing found at the scene.

The Prosecution characterized that finding as "the most important piece of evidence in this case." But Peltier's lawyers say that the court was not told that the FBI Lab had, in fact, CARRIED OUT THE FIRING PIN TEST, WHICH HAD, ACCORDING TO AN FBI DOCUMENT, ESTABLISHED THAT THE BULLET HAD NOT COME FROM PELTIER'S GUN.

For his part, Assistant U. S. Attorney LYNN CROOKS, WHO HELPED PROSECUTE PELTIER, denies that the new information is significant and he argues that the DEFENCE is seeking a new trial largely on the same evidence. But Lawyer Rosenbloom contends that the Peltier Case shows how our Extradition Process allow Foreign Governments to utilize Canadian Courts without adequate check and balances.

"There's a presumption that they (The Foreign Governments) act in a proper JUDICIAL manner," he says. If Peltier is granted a new Trial, that presumption will come under tougher scrutiny in the future...

Sinda McDougall - Indian Voice

EDITOR'S NOTE: LEONARD PELTIER, A 38 YEAR OLD OJIBWA-LAKOTA ACTIVIST AND LEADER OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN MOVEMENT (AIM), IS SERVING TWO CONSECUTIVE LIFE TERMS AT THE MAXIMUM SECURITY FEDERAL PRISON IN MARION, ILLINOIS. HE IS HOUSED IN A FACILITY THAT WAS ALLEGEDLY DESIGNED TO CONTAIN "HIGH RISK" FEDERAL PRISONERS, BUT HAS IN REALITY BECOME A MAINSTAY FOR "RE-EDUCATING" POLITICALLY CONSCIOUS INDIVIDUALS THROUGH THE OPERATIONS OF THE NOTORIOUS "CONTROL UNIT." PELTIER'S CONFINEMENT IN THE "NEW ALCATRAZ" IS THE RESULT OF HIS CONVICTION FOR THE MURDER OF TWO FBI AGENTS. THE REASONS FOR PELTIER'S TRIAL AND CONVICTION WERE NOT, HOWEVER, THE RESULT OF EVIDENCE PROVING HIS GUILT "BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT." ON THE CONTRARY, PELTIER WAS TRIED AND CONVICTED BECAUSE HE IS AN AMERICAN INDIAN LEADER, STRUGGLING TO DEFEND THE RIGHTS AND LAND OF HIS PEOPLE...

Send inquiries about how you can help and donations to:

LEONARD PELTIER DEFENSE COMMITTEE
P.O. Box 1492
Rapid City
SD 57709

Send letters of support directly to Leonard:

LEONARD PELTIER #89637-136
P.O. Box 1000
Marion, IL 62959

You Can Tell

It's Going To Be

A Rotten Day

When...



You wake up face down on the pavement.

You put your bra on backward and it fits better.

You call Suicide Prevention and they put you on hold.

You see a "60 Minutes" news team waiting in your office.

Your birthday cake collapses from the weight of the candles.

You want to put on the clothes you wore home from the party and there aren't any.

You turn on the news and they're showing emergency routes out of the city.

Your twin sister forgets your birthday.

Your car horn goes off accidentally and remains stuck as you follow a group of Hell's Angels on the freeway.

Your boss tells you not to bother to take off your hat.

The bird singing outside your window is a buzzard.

You wake up and your braces are locked together.

You walk to work and find your dress is stuck in the back of your pantyhose.

You call your answering service and they tell you it's none of your business.

Your blind date turns out to be your ex-wife.

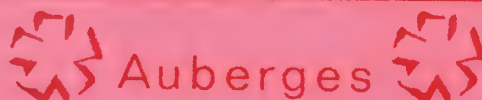
Your income tax check bounces.

You put both contact lenses in the same eye.

Your pet rock snaps at you.

Your wife says, "Good morning, Bill" and your name is George.

Author unknown...but troubled



WANDLYN INNS

The Finest "Seafood" in The Area -
Fresh from Atlantic Waters.

AMHERST, N.S.

EXIT No. 2

TRANS-CANADA 104



Phone:

1 (902) 667-3331

Toll Free

1 (800) 561-0000

* 63 UNITS

* INDOOR POOL

* DINING ROOM

* LOUNGE

* GIFT SHOP

Are You Coming Back?

IF YOU ARE LIKE MANY INMATES BEING RELEASED FROM CANADIAN PENITENTIARIES ON PAROLE OR MANDATORY SUPERVISION, YOU PROBABLY WILL RETURN TO JAIL BEFORE THE EXPIRY OF YOUR PRESENT SENTENCE. STATISTICS FROM 1970 (the year M.S. began in Canada) TO THE END OF 1978, INDICATE PAROLE HAD BEEN COMPLETED SUCCESSFULLY 65% OF THE TIME, AND MANDATORY SUPERVISION IN ONLY 47% OF CASES ("Basic Facts About Corrections in Canada 1983"). PRESENTLY, MOST WOULD ADMIT TO ABOUT AN 80% FAILURE RATE...

But what about you? What are your chances of being one of the eight out of ten that return, or of being one of the two out of ten that are successful? No matter who you are, there are general things you can do to increase the probability of a SUCCESSFUL RELEASE regardless of STATISTICS.

1. BE FULLY AWARE OF WHY YOU ARE BEING RELEASED. If you are granted Parole for the purpose of attending an education, training or an addiction program, and you do not enter or complete the program, you could be "sent back". After all, that was why you were released in the first place. So if this is part of your Parole application, make sure you really want it and can do it.
2. CHECK THE CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS OF YOUR PAROLE, and be willing to follow them, or else it is only a matter of time before you bring on a Parole Suspension and probable Revocation. Travelling beyond your 25 mile limit is grounds for suspension. If sufficient reason is given before hand, you will probably be given permission to travel beyond your limit on that occasion. If you don't ASK, just do it, YOU ARE SETTING YOURSELF UP. The same for drinking and drugs; they are restricted because it is thought they could lead to trouble for you. Not everybody has certain restrictions, you have yours because it is felt NECESSARY for you.
3. CHECK THE TIME AND TIMING OF PAROLE. Your release may depend on a vacancy in a Halfway House, the starting of a program, etc. Being granted Parole and then sitting in jail and just waiting, is frustrating. Get an estimate of your release date. Also, be aware of how long your DAY PAROLE is estimated to last, before it becomes FULL PAROLE. Full Parole is by no means automatic; whether you are in jail or on Day Parole, it must be earned in some way. Realize that when on Parole, it continues until the expiry of your sentence. There is no M.S. while on Parole, only for those in jail is it a CHOICE.

THERE ARE MANY OTHER SUCH FACTORS THAT UNIT OFFICERS, PAROLE OFFICERS, OTHER INMATES AND STAFF CAN ADVISE YOU ON. SEEK THEIR ADVICE BECAUSE IT AFFECTS YOU AND YOUR FUTURE. AN UNSUCCESSFUL PAROLE EXPERIENCE NOW, FOR WHATEVER REASON, CAN MAKE ALL THE OTHERS LONGER IN COMING AND MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO GET...

Con't

LEISURE LOFT

81 VICTORIA ST., AMHERST, N.S.

667-2065

*Quality tapes of Top
Arrivers!*

Are You Coming Back? - Con't

Why not take this fast TEST to see what your chances of coming back are? These factors have been gathered from research, studies, lectures, talks and just plain experience and common sense. You will note that some of them cannot be changed, but they still contribute to your chance of being reincarcerated. Those factors you can change, can drastically reduce your change of returning to jail. Using these as guidelines; you can help yourself get out and stay out...

FACTOR	SCORE 1 POINT IF	SCORE ½ POINT IF	SCORE
1. AGE *	under 20 years	20 to 25 years	
2. SEX	male or female	- - - - -	
3. EDUCATION *	completed Grade 8 or less	Grade 9 to 11	
4. STATUS **	single or common law	separated or divorced	
5. EMPLOYMENT *	a. unemployed or unstable jobs	under-employed	
	b. usually do Labor Jobs	semi or low skilled job	
	c. seasonal jobs	part time/irregular work	
6. ADDICTIONS	a. history of drug abuse	use that affects job or social life	
	b. history of alcohol abuse	use that affects job or social life	
7. INTERESTS	never had a real hobby	had some/have some	
8. HISTORY	a. most friends are ex-inmates	some / many are ex-inmates	
	b. you have a prior arrest record **	have been in Boy's School	
	c. previous incarceration **	previous probation or parole	
	d. your parents are separate/divorced **	you have been in a foster home (s)	
9. CAREER	have none planned or it is intangible or idealistic	my plans are incomplete or unrealistic	

Are You Coming Back - Con't

- * If you do not fall in either category, i.e. - age 26 or more, Score 0 Points.
- ** Maximum score for each factor is one point, except the following where some people could get 1½ points by falling in both categories:
 - Factor 4 - by being Separated or Divorced, and now Living Common Law.
 - Factor 8b - by having an Arrest Record and having been in Boy's School.
 - Factor 8c - by having Previously Been In Jail and on Parole or Probation.
 - Factor 8d - by having had Divorced/Separated Parents and been in Foster Homes.

ADD UP YOUR SCORE ON THE FIFTEEN FACTORS AND LOCATE IT ON THE FOLLOWING CHART:

SCORE	YOUR ESTIMATED CHANCE OF RETURNING TO JAIL (%)
15 to 17	95%
12 to 14½	78%
9 to 11½	52%
6 to 8½	30%
3 to 5½	14%
0 to 2½	0%

What can you do if you fall in the lower categories (Otto 5½ points)? Feel CONFIDENT that since 86 or more people out of every 100 in these categories, are similar to you and are successful upon release, that you could be successful also with a LITTLE EFFORT...

What can you do if you score 6 or more points? Realize the odds are beginning to turn against your success upon release. That a lot of people similar to you have not been successful upon release and have been returned to JAIL. Find out why you scored that HIGH and what you can do about it. Maybe your Education is Grade 8 or less thus giving you a full point plus it could prevent you from getting many of the jobs you know you can do as well as anybody else, but you lack the education needed to qualify - enter School and give it your best effort. Maybe your education is okay but you lack a skill and therefore can only get Labor Jobs or Low Skilled and Low Paying Jobs - consider a Trade Course offered somewhere. Is occupying your Free Time a PROBLEM? Social Skill for Job and Community (usually called Life Coping Skills), maybe an answer. Many other minor changes can be made to get you off on the RIGHT FOOT and to give yourself an honest chance of getting out and STAYING OUT.

THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR, NEVER FOUND IN TABLES, STUDIES, AND STATISTICS, IS YOUR BELIEF IN YOURSELF AND YOUR MOTIVATION TO HELP YOURSELF. NOBODY HAS AS MUCH TO DO ABOUT WHEN YOU GET OUT, HOW LONG YOU STAY OUT AND WHETHER YOU RETURN OR NOT - THAN YOURSELF. Having been granted Parole, means, someone believes in your Ability and Readiness to make it on the Street - believe in yourself just as much as they do and work hard to help make it come true. If you try your best, there is no GUARANTEE everything will be found; but if you don't try, it is guaranteed you will be back.

Nobody can keep you out against your wishes, and nobody can really change or rehabilitate you against your wishes, but there are lots of Sincere People around willing to help you, if you wish. So if we end where we began: ARE YOU COMING BACK?

"look at it this way...
too much sun can give
you skin cancer."



Meditation On Scorched Earth

(a Phil Dow workshop poem from Western Pen)

- by Jack L. Anderson -

Insight provides flames leaping,

Lighting our darkness,

Heating the cold night

air...

Where the fire flares up

From old logs, a cross-thatched pile

Of dead wood

falling apart, trembling

Into ashes...

Nevertheless...when I get my big chance

I'll write a new title... "Small Dragons"

Because "they're" like fire,

Their terrible little tongues

Are like flames...

Their Harsh little throats

Like flame throwers...,

And their hot breath

Is probably like

Rilke's...

Flaring (in great bursts), searing

Our whole fucking world...

Before falling...trembling

Into piles..., dead ashes

I In a place water's never been;

And these are all

things...

Like the empty space

Left in the silence

Since Dow declined to speak

Of metal, fruit, and the "Small Dragons"

That race on...

In pastures fenced for horses

Spoken of earlier...

but

Dragons...

Big or small,

Big & small,

burn...,

They do, they burn...,

burn...,

burn...,

& they don't need wings,

They'll burn that fucking fence

To the ground,

To the green

grass...

Through Gates of Hell

Standing at the iron gate

The bolt lock

Clashes

Echoing thru the canyons

Of my mind.

As the screeching gate slides open

I hurry through (for fear that it may close)

Clutching the brown paper bag

My possessions

I cross the blacktop road

To the bus stop

Waiting,

Waiting...

Looking across at the cavity towering

walls.

The guard with his rifle

Staring

Down

His gaze as cold as a tombstone...

Stepping onto the bus

I smile^{up} at him

Knowing

I survived the house

Of living dead.

John A. Thompson, Sr.

THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY

The therapeutic community is one of the newer institutional approaches to rehabilitation, it's built around a loosely defined concept whereupon inmates are given varying degrees of self government within the living unit. The main sources in this community through which control is channeled is voiced at the thrice weekly unit meetings and the elected inmate discussion committee, they endeavor to work with the staff to maintain the best living environment that's possible under prevailing conditions.

Since the last issue #10 has been on the hot seat a few times, nothing to suprising there, however, this time has seen a couple of the "Good Old Boys" holeward bound on charges of marijuana involvement, dealing in same and suspicions of some muscling going on. Some of those allegedly involved have been shipped to Dorchester Maximum Security Penitentiary. This action brought much debate to our normally languorous therapeutic meetings. The outcome of this imbroglio on the unit and it's potential for harmful ramifications generally, were minimal, however some staff have been tougher on cell searches, plus our canteen hours have been shortened and organised poker games cancelled.

Unit # 10 building is undergoing a bit of a face lift. We now have a new range of lights being installed in the hallways. The inside of the unit will now recieve a comprehensive paint job. The end cells, which have always been a cold spot are now insulated. The unit is also getting a newly installed air system, will be nice when it's finally in operation, the timing was most ripe to rip out the old one, being the dead of winter, yes we've spent a few cold nights of late. The dart room has recieved a modern drop ceiling installation which is most appropriately named as it always seems to have pieces dropping, also it most effectively traps smoke and stale air that after spending little periods of time in it we feel like dropping too.

Thanks are extended to Fred Beaton for the good job he did as camera man, his replacement, (an apparent good choice) is now Lane Mc Carthy.

The unit now has a new Living Unit Officer #1, Chris Howard. Employed in the system for about eight years, Chris spent his first three years implanted at Dorchester Penitentiary. He then transferred here to Springhill taking on an LUO #1 position in number 8 unit. Given his background he has worked well in blending into the therapeutic community concept. His first month caused a few ripples in our modus vivendi, this resulted in Chris, standing up to open debate with affronted inmate's at a unit meeting. After facing the righteous indignation of the aggrieved parties Chris in mitigation explained that after working in a different system for the last seven and a half years, adjustment would be necessary and some time would be needed for him to acclimatise to the new environment. He also informed the unit that if they had any further case to complain that they come and voice them to him directly. Since that time he has not had any further conflicts that are known, he is taking an very active role in the unit E.T.A. program as an escort.

Speaking about the unit E.T.A. program, Pat Currey our T.A. co-ordinator, is doing a great job and is now as well inmate's outside purchasing agent.

The big group E.T.A.'s prevalent over the last few months have been down, this is mainly due to the fact that unit is two staff members short. To make up for this, we have seen many smaller groups going out. I think Steve C and Glen M deserve a vote of thanks fot their support and paper pushing that goes into the E.T.A. program. The group E.T.A.'s scheduled for the next couple of months are; swimming, fishing, mining museum, bar-b-que, clam digging and the chance of a golfing outing or two.

Special thanks to the Pugwash group for their recent health food sale and we hope you keep up the good work guys.

Closer to home, we sincerely appreciate the discussion committee's larger and more active role in unit affairs, of late they have been quite busy.

Here's to warmer times, and better times in short time.

Written by Eric McAdam in
collaboration with
John H. Moore.



Inside-Out

March has seen the culmination of a long and determined effort to realise the implementation of the Private Family Visiting Program here.

Construction of the required house commenced during October 1983, a wooden 3 bed-roomed bungalow was built and is located near the fence perimeter close to the existing general visiting building.

Interested observers could see steady progress taking place externally by November, construction was completed by years end, and culminated recently in the erection of a security fence enclosing the house.

Anticipation has been intense among married inmates, those with relationships and a number of foreigners presently incarcerated here, whose wives and families are prevented by distance and cost to justify non-contact visits.

This group in particular with the prospects now available for conjugal contact should be better motivated to arrange their families visit.

The positive benefits to be realised by allowing intimate family and wife contact and the contribution to the continuation of family and nuptial ties so threatened by long time deprivation of physical contact can well be imagined, so no further comment is needed.

Eligible inmates who are not on Day Parole leave, will be allowed 72 hour visits at three monthly intervals utilising the house which is fully equipped and self-contained.

Prior to a visit a food requirement list is drawn up and presented to the kitchen for supply, the costs being paid by inmate or family as preferred.

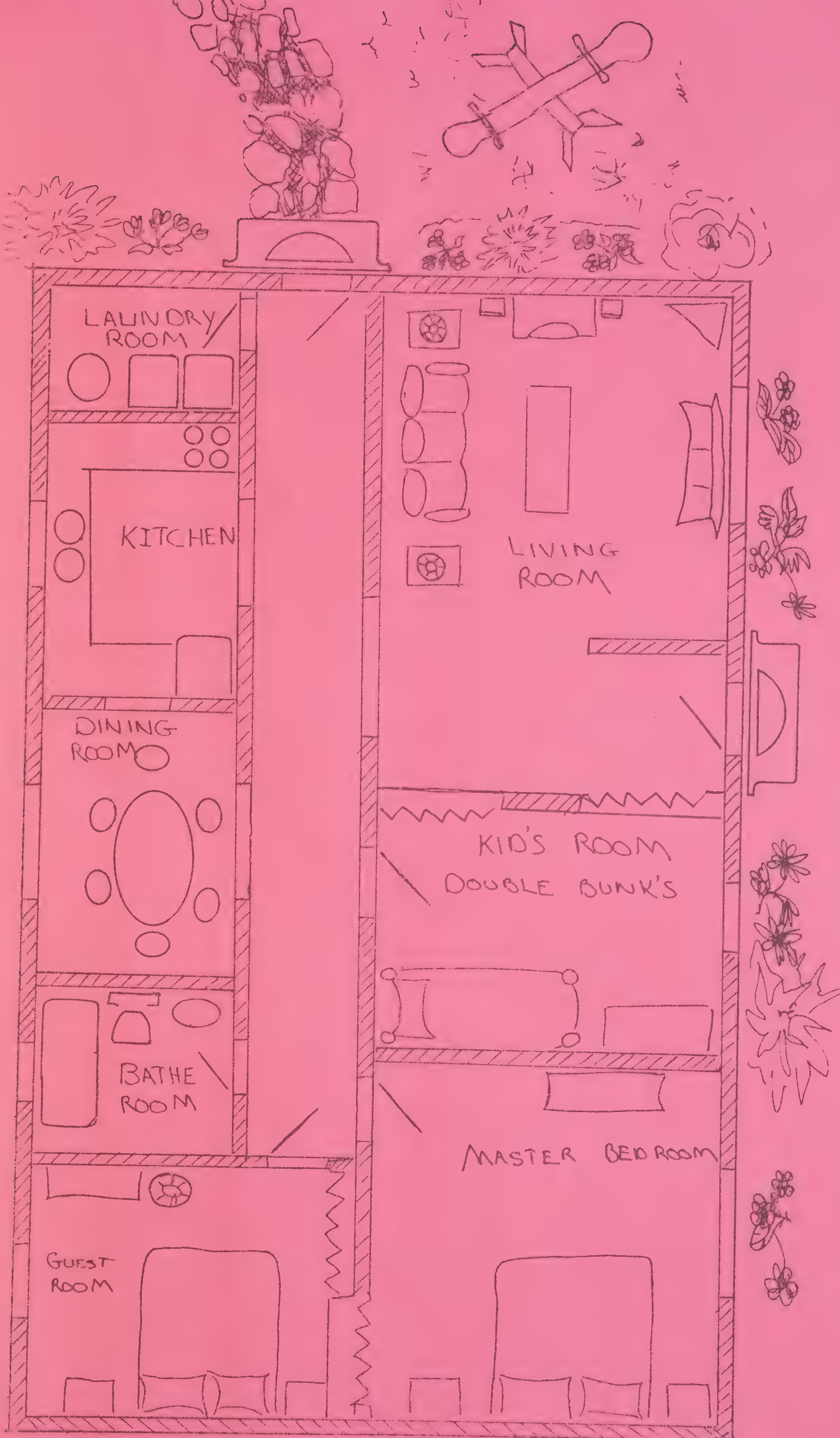
For the occupants to be able to enjoy as private and relaxed an occupancy as possible seems to be the Institutes objective, this is being facilitated, demonstrated and achieved by security necessities and intrusions being kept to an absolute minimum.

The house can sleep six persons, being equipped with two double bed-rooms and a single room with double bunks suitable for children, every amenity has been provided for including a colour television and A-M, F-M stereo cassette, kindly donated by the inmate committee, washing machine and all the necessary domestic utensils. Most of the furniture was manufactured in the vocational workshops operated here, it is more than adequate, tasteful and well made.

One's first impression upon entering the house is of cleanliness and it's spaciousness and apparent luxury, of course our comparisons are distorted by the spartan sterility and confines of a cell, but never-the-less the house is obviously well designed, sturdily constructed and well fitted out. Our thanks to all concerned in bringing this dream to final realisation, special thanks to Jock spencer and the staff at visits & correspondence who are responsible for visit allocations, supervision and servicing.

Perhaps the projects success is best encapsulated by repeating a recent inmate occupants observation, "whilst experiencing my visit, I was able for the first time to forget I was in Prison".

JOHN.H.MOORE.



YESTERDAY - TODAY - TOMORROW

There are two days in every week about which we should not worry. Two days which should be kept from fear and apprehension.

One of these days is YESTERDAY with its mistakes and cares; its faults and blunders; its aches and pains. YESTERDAY has passed forever beyond our control.

All the money in the world cannot bring back YESTERDAY. We cannot undo a single act we performed; we cannot erase a single word we said: YESTERDAY is gone.

The other day we should not worry about is TOMORROW with its possible adversities; its burdens; its large promise and poor performance. TOMORROW is also beyond our immediate control.

TOMORROW'S sun will rise, either in splendor or behind a mask of clouds - but it will rise. Until it does, we have no stake in TOMORROW, for it is as yet unborn.

This leaves only one day - TODAY - any man can fight the battles of just one day. It is only when you and I add the burdens of those two awful eternities - YESTERDAY and TOMORROW - that we break down.

It is not the experience of TODAY that drives men mad - it is remorse or bitterness for something which happened YESTERDAY and the dread of what TOMORROW may bring.

Let us, therefore, live
but one day at a
time.

Reminiscing

By Micheal A. Lanza

Hell of a meal, he thought.

With a slow, unconscious flick of his fork, he pushed a piece of meat across the plate. Hundreds of memories flooded into his mind, converging on him like apparitions of doom, competing for his attention.

He rolled a potato across the plate to join the lone piece of meat.

Funny it should all come back to me now, he thought. As a red-faced, six-year-old-boy, standing with the bat still in his hands, refusing to confess to Mrs. Kirby that he had just hit the baseball through her picture window. And the crossed arms of his mother looming over him, telling him to just admit he did it, and apologize. *"It's never too late to say you're sorry"*, Mom always said... He laughed aloud to no-one.

The gravy began to level out and distribute itself over the plate.

Of course, Mom never was one for apologizing, either. Especially after Dad left for the last time, and her drinking got really bad. Angry and fed-up, he finally left home at fourteen.

Without him commanding it to, his hand fiercely jabbed the knife into the largest chunk of meat. It seemed to take on human facial features and grin mockingly at his futile attempt at vengeance.

He and the guys, boy, they were invincible! Lords of the neighborhood, no one told them what to do, or stood in the way of what they wanted. And him, the biggest and toughest of them all, taking on all foolish enough to challenge him. The more fortunate of his victims usually limped away painfully, their bruises a physical representation of their lesson learned. He recalled that old man's words, *"...you're a tough kid, but there's always someone bigger."*

He had brushed the comment aside with a cocky laugh, then...

He laughed aloud at the peas as he swept them to the plate's edge.

He vividly recalled sprinting out of that corner grocer, with the ninety dollars, obtained at knifepoint, clenched tightly in his hand. The police arrested him at home hours later. That escapade cost him three years of his life.

An icy chill engulfed him, causing him to shiver, though he could not imagine where it might possibly have come from. It seemed to have cooled off his food, too...

Then, there was the final, 'big' job, last year. This one would set them up for life, Sammy said. They needed guns for this one, yea, Sam knew it all. But Sam and the others never got a chance to use their guns. He did all the shooting. He killed that woman, and the cop. And he was sorry. His lawyer had been trying to tell the courts that for a year, but no one would listen. His mother's words reverberated hauntingly through the corridors of his mind.

The cell door creaked open.

"It's time, Ralph."

He gazed up at the two uniformed men, and slowly rose out of his chair.

"Ralph, you didn't even touch your food. We could never give you enough before." He made no response...

The guards escorted him down the empty hallway to the entrance of the small room, where a host of notable persons had assembled, waiting for him. But he spoke with and looked at no one.

They strapped him into the cold, metal chair, and taped the electrodes to his bared flesh. The silence that suddenly descended over the group was deafening.

"Any last words, Ralph?"

He paused...

"Tell Mrs. Kirby - I'm sorry."

PUGWASH PROJECT '83

The idea of the Pugwash Project was evolved from a former contact group now dissolved that was in operation at Springhill. Talks between Ray Mooney, Stu Murray and Sandra Hythe representing inmates, administration and Parole service respectfully, took place in early January 1983 to discuss group aims, goals and structures. These objectives were then broken down to define group direction and gym and day parole programme objectives.

As group co-ordinator, Mooney started working at Sunset home, a residence for the mentally handicapped in Pugwash N.S. This gave him an opportunity to meet with the staff at the home and determine what the needs were and how the Pugwash group could assist them. By early May, a group constitution was made up with all goals in mind and with all the groups concepts and ideas clearly defined, the first meeting was held in May, when Ray Mooney was designated group chairman and a secretary voted in. By mid June the group was ready to receive the first resident group from Sunset to take part in the gym program.

The gym program is designed to give the residents physical exercise and social contact that they wouldn't normally receive at the home. The program commenced with 6 members of our group cleared to take part. It was difficult in the early stages and was a learning experience for all involved. The agenda usually consisted of meeting the residents, walking them around to ultimately progressing to some form of exercise such as basketball or minigolf, this was proved to be very popular with residents. During the summer the weather was most co-operative during their visits and activities could take place outdoors freely, made more enjoyable with cold beverages being supplied by kitchen. As membership in the group expanded so did the gym program activities which now include aerobics, bowling, basketball, ball-throwing and weight-lifting. It's believed that all members would agree that not only are these visits fun for both groups but worthwhile and rewarding to all.

In July members of our group invited by Sunset home attended their annual family fair held at Pugwash, the result was increased rapport between inmates and the Pugwash residents.

This fall a successful health food sale was held by our group for inmates the profits so derived were used to purchase Christmas gifts for residents in the gym programme. This led us to the year's big event our staging of a Xmas party, this was held in the old gym on the afternoon of December 6th, the day started with members of the group assisted by "tree trimmer" Marie MacDonald in putting up the Xmas decorations. The residents arrived at 1pm, and after being greeted, joined in a sing-song of Christmas carols which if not entirely melodious singing was full of enthusiasm. We were then entertained by a very talented classical guitarist. A luncheon was then held and again thanks to the kitchen staff for the sandwiches, ice-cream and cookies provided. After lunch the activities were heralded by the arrival of Santa Joe. To see the expressions of joy on the faces of the residents when Santa arrived with his bag of goodies was enough to justify all our efforts in organising the party.

To us it proved the old saying that it is as satisfying to give as it is to receive. As we said our goodbyes afterwards, I'm sure that all the members had the self satisfaction of having brought joy to the hearts of someone in a situation not unlike ours, they being prisoners of their mental and physical disorders and we prisoners of our deeds.

continued

PANASONIC/TECHNICS

**AUDIO
AMP**

125 Victoria St., AMHERST, N.S.

667-5521

PUGWASH PROJECT '83.

So ends 1983 for the Pugwash project, thanks go to all our members past & present, Ray Mooney for his efforts in getting the ball rolling and keeping the momentum going throughout the year. Also thanks to the representatives of the administration for all their help and consideration, and those members of the Parole Service for their attendance at our meetings and liason with the administration. We look forward to a rewarding and successful 1984 under the leadership of newly elected chairman Terry Trainor. Speaking for all members we offer him our full support and continued co-operation for the future.

Written by Don Bolstad.

PUGWASH PROJECT MID '84.

So here we are well into 1984, the Pugwash project is most alive and well having weathered committee and executive change. Ann Marie MacDonald who was the Parole Boards liason officer with the group has stepped down, she has been ably replaced by John Mont, previously a Parole service officer in Halifax, he has recently transferred to Springhill. We sincerely thank Ann for her keen inspiration and participation in the project, although genuinely missed, "Pugwash", is stronger as a legacy of her tenure.

Terry Trainor is most capable as inmates group chairman, coupled with the committees enthusiasm, new energy and dynamism has been instilled in the group.

During February a temporary absence was arranged for a group of Pugwash members to join home residents on a sleigh ride which was a roaring success and enjoyed by all. There is an ongoing day release programme available for eligible inmates, to work at and assist in needed tasks at the Pugwash home.

Fortnightly approximately 12 Pugwash residents attend our gym, inmates in the group assist and join them in a variety of recreational activities these are fitness and exercise orientated, presently special emphasis is placed on demonstrating to and practising with those who might qualify to compete in a special handicapped Olympics planned for May.

Bi-monthly T.A.'s for inmate members of the group to visit Pugwash's home for a first hand look at the facility will continue.

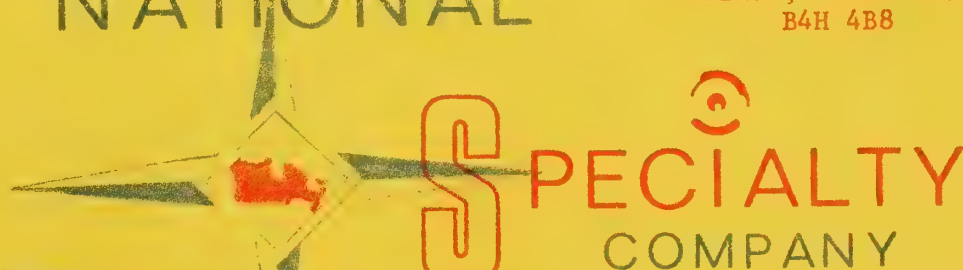
Another health food sale organised by the group for the inmate population here has exceeded expectations, Pugwash fund coffers will benefit handsomely from it, its share of proceeds. Indeed Pugwash is proving to be one of the more successful experiments to have been implemented, satisfying and rewarding for all concerned.

Written by John.H.Moore.

WRITE FOR OUR CATALOGUE!

NATIONAL

HEAD OFFICE
AMHERST, NOVA SCOTIA
B4H 4B8



BINGO
FIREWORKS
PARTY FAVORS
BAR EQUIPMENT
CARNIVAL GAMES
DART EQUIPMENT
FLOAT DECORATIONS
CONVENTION EQUIPMENT
RIBBONS & BADGES & TROPHIES

PERSONAL GIFTS
Giftware
Rings
Jewellery
Radios
Sporting Goods

AND MUCH MORE!

ROBB ENGINEERING - as a Unit of AMCA INTERNATIONAL, (formerly Dominion Bridge Co. Ltd.) offers the backing of AMCA INTERNATIONAL; a company engaged in Engineering, Manufacturing, Construction, and World Wide Marketing of Steel Based Products.

ROBB

- * STRUCTURAL STEEL
- * STEEL SERVICE CENTRE
- * CONSTRUCTION SERVICES
- * PLATEWORK



ENGINEERING

AMCA INTERNATIONAL

P.O. Box 490
AMHERST, N.S.
B4H 4A3

P.O. Box 159
EASTERN PASSAGE, N.S.
B0J 1L0

Phone: (902) 361-3801

Phone:: (902) 463-4400

11

Help! I'm being held Prisoner!

Greetings from unit number eleven, the home of broken washers, very noisy dryers, and two blasting T.V.'s for our hard of hearing impervious inmates.

It has been a while since we have documented any of our feats, modest men that we are. For the benefit of the uninformed let it be known, we in eleven are basically a low-keyed bunch of guys, quietly doing our non-therapeutic as possible time, in sure hope of breaking down the barriers.

Our unit has only lately been getting back on it's financial feet, having poured numerous dollars into repairing washers and dryers. We had a successful pizza sale in January, unit coffers relieving a needed boost. This money and a donation from the inmate welfare fund, will enable us to provide sufficient funding for a games tournament to be held over the Easter weekend.

In the winter sports department, our soccer team came from being the last place team to winning the indoor soccer championship. Congratulations to all the guys involved, not only for an excellent performance but their top class.

Our unit played twice against the staff in ice-hockey games, but as usual we got "screwed" by the screws. These low-life types correctly concluded how powerhouse a hockey team we could put on the blades. So true to form a few of our better players were inked by them before they could reach the arena. Due to this and other induced obstacles we lost, scores were 10 to 11 and 6 to 7.

The present excitement is the Stanley Cup play-offs. Many of our guys are for the great "Canadiens" but we have a few inmates who prefer (yes there are some strange types around) those over the border Islanders, or those guys out West called "Oilers".

Our T.A. program is coming around very well. A few swimming, bowling and ice-hockey T.A.'s have occurred, a new year long T.A. program is now planned.

A little praise is due to our canteen operator, Gilles Provost. Fourteen months management, devoid of hassles, is accomplishing the near impossible.

John Perley and Keith Rolson are our sports representatives, John is also acting sports commissioner for the general population, Keith also joins Terry Trainor as unit committee representatives.

That's all the action from unit eleven for the present, but our presence will be felt this summer, we'll completely dominate in soft-ball, tug-of-war, weight-lifting and of course all running races, with no mercy asked or shown.

Written by Terry Trainor in collaboration
with John H. Moore.

HOW TO KNOW YOU'RE GROWING OLDER

- *****
- * Everything hurts, and what doesn't hurt doesn't work.
 - * The gleam in your eyes is from the sun hitting your bifocals.
 - * You feel like the night before, and you haven't been anywhere.
 - * Your little black book contains names only ending in M.D.
 - * You get winded playing chess.
 - * Your children begin to look middle-aged.
 - * You finally reach the top of the ladder, and you find it leaning against the wrong wall.
 - * You join a health club and don't go.
 - * You begin to outlive enthusiasm.
 - * You decide to procrastinate but never get around to it.
 - * Your mind makes contracts your body can't meet.
 - * A dripping faucet causes uncontrollable bladder urge.
 - * You know all the answers, but nobody asks you the questions.
 - * You look forward to a dull evening.
 - * You walk with your head held high trying to get used to your bifocals.
 - * Your favorite part of the newspaper is "Twenty-five years ago" today.
 - * You turn out the light for economic rather than romantic reasons.
 - * You sit in a rocking chair and can't get it going.
 - * Your knees buckle but your belt won't.
 - * You regret all those temptations you resisted.
 - * You're 17 around the neck, 44 around the waist, and 105 around the golf course.
 - * You stop looking forward to your next birthday.
 - * After painting the town red, you have to take a long rest before applying a second coat.
 - * Dialing long distance wears you out.
 - * You are startled the first time someone calls you old-timer.
 - * You remember today that yesterday was your wedding anniversary.
 - * You just can't stand people who are intolerant.
 - * The best part of your day is over when the alarm clock goes off.
 - * You burn the midnight oil after 9:00 P.M.
 - * Your back goes out more often than you do.
 - * A fortune teller offers to read your face.
 - * Your pacemaker makes the garage door rise when a pretty girl walks by.
 - * The little grey-haired old lady you help across the street is your wife.
 - * You get all your exercise being pallbearer for your friends who exercised.
 - * You get your teeth into a steak and then they stay there...
- *****

INDUSTRIAL PARK, AMHERST, N.S.

667-8445

CHAPMAN
BROS. LTD.

FRANCHISE BOTTLERS OF

PEPSI

Squirt

DIET PEPSI

7up

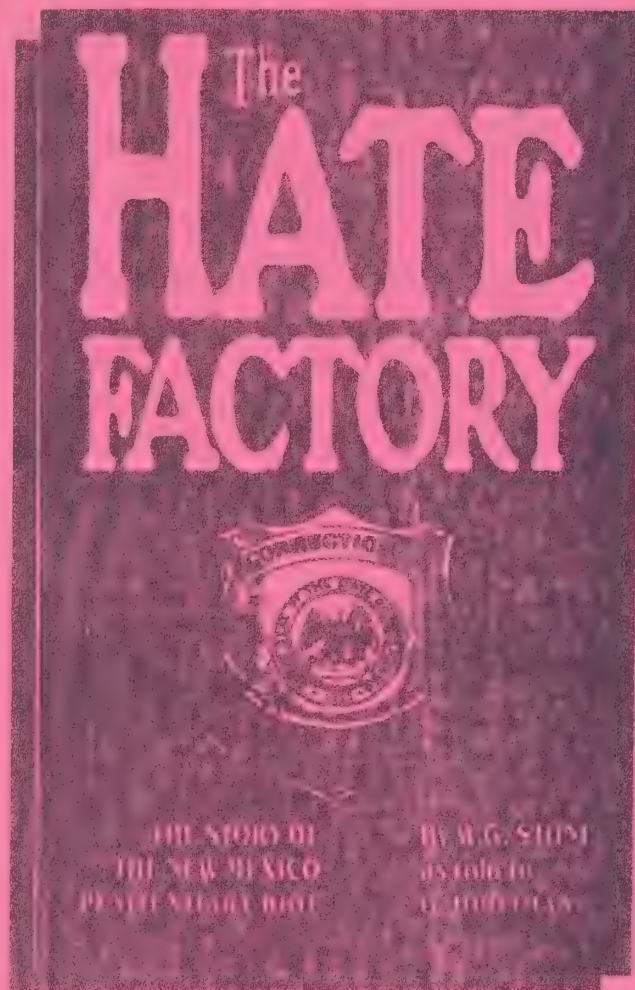
MAQUETTES

"THERE ARE TEN 'HOLES', SIX-BY-NINE FOOT CELLS WITH NO WINDOWS, NO VENTILATION, NO LIGHTS...YOU'RE STRIPPED AND THROWN IN NAKED...THEY FEED YOU ONE MEAL EVERY THREE DAYS. THERE'S A FAUCET IN THE CELL, BUT THERE'S WATER IN IT ONLY WHEN THE GUARD COMES AND TURNS IT ON FROM THE OUTSIDE."

On February 2, 1980, the worst prison riot in U.S. history erupted at the New Mexico State Penitentiary. For thirty-six hours, hate, violence, and pay-back were the order of the day. When it was over, thirty-three people - all inmates killed by fellow inmates - were dead.

February 2, 1980 - it happened in New Mexico, but it could, some insist it will, happen again - any time, any place where men are jammed together in over-crowded cages and left to rot.

If you have a friend or loved one currently doing time, or if you have ever wondered why our prison system's rehabilitation record is so dismal, you owe it to yourself to read this eye-witness account of the New Mexico uprising.



W.G. STONE WAS THERE. THIS IS HIS EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT.
ON SALE NOW or BUY DIRECT

From Paisano Publications, Inc., Box 1025, Agoura, California 91301.
Just send \$3.00* check or money order. Canada, \$4.30* Foreign, \$5.95*

*Prices include postage and handling. California residents add 6% sales tax

MARGOLIANS

129 Victoria St., AMHERST, N.S.

Ph: 667-3321

The Best In Ladies, Gentlemen's & Children's Clothing & Footwear.

Also Furnishings For The Home



Old Man In The Glass

B
Y

T
E
D

G
O
R
M
A
N

When you get what you want in your struggle for life
And the world makes you king for a day
Just go to the mirror and look at yourself,
And see what that man has to say.

For it isn't your father or mother or wife
Who's judgement upon you will pass;

The fellow who's verdict counts most in your life
Is the one staring back from the glass.

Some people may think you're a straight-shooting chum
And call you a wonderful guy,

But the man in the glass says you're only a bum
If you can't look him straight in the eye.

He's the fellow to please, never mind all the rest,
For he's with you clear up to the end,
And you've passed your most dangerous, difficult test
If the man in the glass is your friend.

You may fool the whole world down the pathway of years
And gets you pats on the back as you pass,
But your final reward will be heartaches and tears
If you've cheated the man in the glass.

Castration or Incarceration

THE CRIME HAD BEEN NIGHTMARISHLY BRUTAL: A SIX-HOUR GANG RAPE IN AN ANDERSON, S.C., MOTEL ROOM BY THREE MEN, AFTER WHICH THE 80-LB. WOMAN VICTIM REQUIRED FOUR PINTS OF BLOOD AND FIVE DAYS OF HOSPITALIZATION. THE RAPISTS HAD PLEADED GUILTY IN THE HOPE THAT AS FIRST OFFENDERS THEY WOULD RECEIVE A LENIENT SENTENCE FROM JUDGE C. VICTOR PYLE. "THE DEFENDANTS," INTONED PYLE, "SHALL BE CONFINED TO THE CUSTODY OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS FOR A PERIOD OF 30 YEARS." THAT WAS THE MAXIMUM. THE REAL JOLT CAME WHEN THE JUDGE ADDED THAT HE WOULD SUSPEND THE SENTENCE "UPON THE DEFENDANTS' VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT TO BE CASTRATED AND THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THAT SURGICAL PROCEDURE."

"It was like someone had hit me over the head with an iron pipe," said one defense attorney, Theo Mitchell. "The sentence shocked everyone in the courtroom - the Clerk, the Solicitor, the Sheriff, even the victim." As for Defendants Foscoe James Brown, 27, Mark Vaughn, 21, and Michael Braxton, 19, "they really didn't understand the import at first," said Glenn W. Thomason, another defense lawyer. "They thought he meant sterilization. I explained that he meant cutting their testicles off. That put them in a state of shock, to put it mildly." Nevertheless, the three are so terrified of a long prison term that they are seriously considering the judge's proposed alternative even as their lawyers are appealing the sentences.

Many Anderson citizens were grimly pleased by the severity of the judge's either-or decision. But few legal, medical or corrections experts endorse the castration alternative. As a punitive response, it evokes images of both Nazi Germany and pre-Civil War America, where male slaves were emasculated if they were even suspected of sexual intimacy with a white woman. (In the Anderson case, the rapists and their victim are black.) Says University of Chicago Law Professor Norval Morris: "It's in the same spirit as lopping off arms of shoplifters, or tongues of libelists." Yale Kamisar, a professor of criminal law at the University of Michigan argues that castration would obviously violate the Constitution's prohibition of cruel and unusual punishment. But he acknowledges that it may be no less cruel to be sent to prison, "where you can be gang-raped or God knows what else."

As far as the safety of the community is concerned, freeing a castrated rapist may also be unwise. "I know a lot of rape victims approve, but I'm afraid to have men like this out on the street," says Joy Bennett, executive director of the Rape Crisis Council of Greenville, S.C. A. Nicholas Groth, author of Men Who Rape and director of a program for sex offenders at a Connecticut prison, notes that "rape is the sexual expression of aggression, and not a aggressive expression of sexuality." Furthermore, Groth points out, even after castration, some men are capable of having intercourse. And if they cannot, the male hormone testosterone, produced naturally by the testes, is readily available in artificial form by pill or injection to restore both libido and potency.

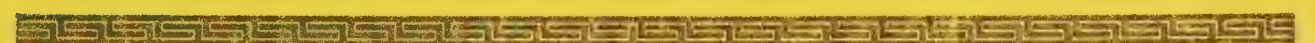
The stark alternatives of surgical castration and incarceration ignore some other programs for treating sex offenders. One newly popular approach, sometimes dubbed chemical castration, uses a drug called Depo-Provera, which sharply diminishes sex drive in men by reducing their production of testosterone. The drug gained national attention last summer when a Texas jury sentenced Rapist Joseph Frank Smith to ten years' probation instead of prison after he volunteered to undergo Depo-Provera therapy. Smith entered the nation's largest program at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. The program has 150 patients, 80% of them on parole and probation; nearly half are taking Depo-Provera. Dr. Fred Berlin, a co-director of the program, emphasizes that Depo-Provera is only one part of the therapy. The drug temporarily controls the men's sexual appetite while intensive psychotherapy seeks to change their behavior patterns. Berlin claims that during the program's 3½ years of operation, only 15% of the offenders have committed new offenses, compared with a rate that Berlin says can be as high as 85% for sex offenders who are only imprisoned.

Other Depo-Provera programs are under way in at least six locations. A program at the Oregon State Hospital in Salem also includes "aversion therapy," in which sex offenders are shown sexually enticing slides and are subjected to foul odors or mild electric shocks if they become aroused because of deviant feelings. Not all specialists in the field are impressed by these experiments. Richard Seely, who runs a highly regarded psychotherapeutic program for rapists and child molesters in Minnesota, considers Depo-Provera dangerous. He cites two men who became so depressed while taking it that they committed suicide. And in a 1972 experiment he conducted, the drug's effects seemed more psychological than real. "As the next step up from the vindictive barbarism of castration, Depo-Provera leaves me with little hope," says Seely, who believes that what hope there is for treating violent sex offenders lies in years of confinement and therapy.

Rapists Brown, Vaughn, and Braxton are likely to wind up with the year of confinement even if they opt for the surgery, which is known as a bilateral orchidectomy. The last time emasculation was seriously discussed in the U.S. as an alternative to prison was in 1975, when two child molesters told a San Diego judge that they would submit to castration in return for probation. The judge was willing, but it was impossible to find a doctor in California who would do the operation. Surgeons demurred then - as they probably would today - for fear their patients might change their minds after the operation and sue, and because it seemed unethical to perform a procedure whose only medical purpose was to mutilate.

By Michael S. Serrill

Reported by B.J. Phillips/Atlanta
Richard Zacks/Chicago



It's that time of the year, again. Yeah! We all have to have a damn Psychiatric Assessment, again. For What? Well, the last few years, Unit Nine is always having a hard time winning Championships when they count the most. Oh sure, we were number one in Ball Hockey and even won ourselves some prestigious tournaments, but never the Big One. Well, this year is different, in order to Spruce-up for the ball season, the ball players in the Unit require a Psychiatric Assessment done. Even the most impressive athletes in the Unit like Vance, Jimmy, Sammy, Jamie, and so on... And that goes for the Slow Pitch Ball Players, also, like Brian, Roy, Mike, and even Crossman (he needs it for umpiring). They say that a Psychiatric Assessment is suppose to help us win some Championships, and it is also suppose to help us get over the Depression of seeing the Bloody Canadians lose, once again - to the Islanders. And this Psychiatric Assessment will help put some spirit back into Nine, I hope. Our "Motto" for this year is "99 Red Balloons", or is that "99 and Company", whatever... Heh, Heh!

"Look Out! Islanders! and look out, Springhill!"

Guess Who!

P.S. And if this don't work...then, make room, Therapeutic!

HALLIDAY'S

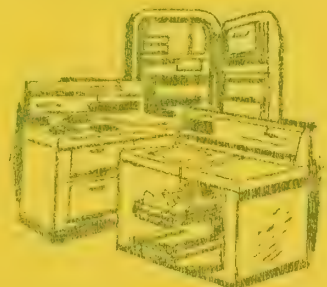
Home Care Center

SPRINGHILL, N.S.

597-3744



BUILDING SUPPLIES
KITCHENWARE
HOUSEWARES
HARDWARE
CARPETS
TOOLS



NATIVE AMERICAN SPIRITUALITY IN CANADIAN PRISONS

All elements of our culture are respected and very Sacred to our People. Our religion is as Sacred as that printed in the bible, but is not recognized as well by the white European Colonists. In the beginning, there was no such evidence of a written language amongst our race, therefore, pure religion cannot be found in any written form. All Native People, from birth learned the Sacred Rituals to the Creator. The Great Spirit, (at the beginning of human nature), showed my people, "through nature", the laws of love and unity. All the animals are "one" with Mother Nature. No! Our customs cannot be visually conceived on the Sacred Trees the destructive invaders have desecrated. Our Sacred laws are molded in our hearts, and our Rituals are practiced with utmost pride and respect - every day of each week, in the white man's concept of time.

Indeed Society, and Government agents, in particular have no knowledge — or, I should say, understanding of our culture. This reason sadly subjects Native Spirituality in most penal settlements to be tolerated only to the extent that it does not interfere with "good order and maintenance of the institution".

For example: although the Native Brotherhoods in the western region are allowed to practice some of the Sacred Rituals of our customs, they cannot practice these Rituals as they were originally intended. In Kent maximum, for instance, if the Brotherhood wants to perform a "Pipe Ceremony", the person the administration has designated as the pipe holder must first obtain permission — or give five hours' notice to the administration of his intention to leave his cell with the Sacred Pipe. Additionally, he must also give a premeditated route to the security personnel. This is tantamount to asking a Christian inmate who owns a bible to give notice of intention and route to be taken each time he leaves his cell with that bible. Of course, this would be unheard of, indeed, if this were the case, and the local chaplency were to hear of it, there would definitely be cries of indignation from all of Christianity. Yet, this can be done with our "Sacred Pipe", simply because of the insensitivity brought about by a lack of understanding of Native Spirituality. The final consequence is that the Brotherhood finds it preferable to utilize the "Sacred Pipe" as seldom as possible, rather than subject its Sacredness to further desecration, as seems to be the intention of the administration there. It further has the unavoidable result of engendering hostility between Native inmates and all institutional personnel.

This is just one example of the insensitivity and lack of understanding of Native Spirituality. It is apparent, however, that in the experience of those members of the Dorchester Native Brotherhood — some who have been unwillingly transferred from institution to institution specifically because of their involvement in attempting to solidify Native Spirituality in jail — that the attitude displayed herein is not restricted to geography; that it is pervasive in penitentiaries across this nation.

* Edmonton Penitentiary allows Elders and Spiritual leaders into the institution only with the proviso that they are subject to both clothes and skin frisks. This would neither be done nor even thought of for Christian leaders or priests.

con't

* In Stoney Mountain institution, participation is encouraged in the Native Brotherhood only if such participation is on their terms. If not, they are then falsely accused of subversive activities and subsequently transferred away from their wives and other loved ones, as well as any established roots in that community.

* The Millhaven penitentiary does not have a strong Native Brotherhood, and, therefore, is subject to what is known in penitentiary parlance as "the numbers game". Any activities planned by the Native Brotherhood are limited in size and scope to the number of members participating. In other words, if there are ten members who want to hold a meeting which involves outside participation that numbers more than ten, the meeting then cannot take place in its planned format. The number of participants must be limited to ten. This is both frustrating and extremely illogical.

* In Dorchester penitentiary, the Native Brotherhood, with thirty members, is also relatively small group and, therefore subject to the number games. Since the administration decides not only if there will be a Native Brotherhood, from month to month. The present executive body has been attempting to negotiate ratification of our new constitution. The person delegated by the warden to meet with us - whenever he feels like it - has told us the constitution we are proposing is "too ambitious" for our members. He has also told us that he is concerned with the section that deals with Honorary Membership in that he believes or has interpreted (or both!) this section to mean that it will only be a matter of time before the white honorary members "take over" the group. This in spite of the black and white print in this section that states specifically that all honorary members do not have the right to vote. He has said that the Social we proposed is "too ambitious"; he has told one member of the group from the West that "Indians in the east are slower than those of the west".

And the examples could go on and on. The Dorchester Native Brotherhood is the only Brotherhood we know of that doesn't have a full time liason officer. The liason officer we have can only make it to our meetings once every two weeks, because he's spread thin over three or four different areas throughout the Maritimes. (This, of course, means we are allowed only one meeting bi-monthly.)

To sum up, then, until such time as the white cultured administrators come to understand that Native People do not want to become a dark skinned, white encultured race, the problems mentioned herein will never cease. The callousness; the insensitivity; the prejudice; the stereotypical attitudes. All of them.

We are often referred to as the "Indian Problem". The word problem itself demonstrates a lack of resolution. It also means a "puzzled bewilderment". The solution to this "problem", in our view, is for the white culture to stop conceiving of itself as administering to a lesser "Native" culture - a fantasy that defeats any purpose - and start thinking of us as a separate and distinct culture: A holistic people; a people who have no desire to emulate white culture. The central purpose of our lives is to live spiritually; it is a Sacred Way of Life. It is not theory of doctrinaire theology, it is practical Way of a Life. By it and through it, every act of life is informed, meaningful and blessed. We must have it and practice it, just as one needs food to survive. Without it, the Indian begins to die. We are convinced that the high rate of Indian suicides in jail and out are directly related to the forced alienation of their spirituality as a result of the white cultures incessant need to "integrate" and "assimilate" that which it does not understand. We don't need to integrate or assimilate, we need to be left alone to practice our Sacred Way of Life; we need to be allowed access to our own People and Spiritual Leaders, so that we may remain as one in the Sacred Circle of Life.

She Never Really Cared

In the darkness of the gray battered locker
An old blue cardboard box
Held together with age stained masking tape
Is buried with years of memories.
Pulling it out to reminiscence
I counted fifty-four letters, fourteen cards
Tucked inside faded envelopes with blue ink,
Some smuggled with red lip-stick.
I read how you cared, hoped,
That someday I'd be there with you
Pumping dreams into my heart...
A tear trickles down my cheek.
I read the letter that said you'd be here to visit
I waited anxiously like a child on X-mas morning
But you never arrived...
A tear falls dead upon the page.
I read the letter that said "you loved me,
That no other man could take my place,"
This time I shed no tears;
Instead, I tore up your letters, your cards.
The pain ripped through my heart
As I tore the printed memories from my mind
Wiping the tears from my eyes
Burning the dream that never was.

John A. Thompson, Sr.

Childhood Anxiety

During adolescence
I was seeking Love...Affection
Instead
Desolation...
Rebellious...
Opposed to authority
Ignorant...
Immature...
Only to mar myself.

John A. Thompson, Sr.

WEDNESDAY

I MOVED IN CLOSE,
CROUCHING,
LIKE A FIGHTER
WAITING FOR A CHANCE,
AN OPENING
I CANNOT WAIT MUCH LONGER
GIVE IN QUIETLY OR GO.
ARE YOU THAT WILD
LATE-BLOOMING PLANT?
IF SO YOU MUST NOT WAIT
TO TELL ME
FOR THERE'S LITTLE TIME
WITHIN THIS LIFE
AND THE NEXT ONE'S
NEARLY SPENT.

"SUNDAY NIGHT"

I,M LIVING,
NO I,M STAYING,
DOWN THE STREET
WE CAN WALK.

REINTRODUCTION

YOUR HERE
SEEING YOU
THE SECOND TIME
MAKES ME FEEL
I HAD MY EYES CLOSED
WHEN WE MET BEFORE

YES
THE WHOLE OF IT
WOULD BE THE BEST.
ALL PRETENSE
NOT PRETENDED ANYMORE

BUT YOU ARE HERE
THAT IS ENOUGH FOR YOU
AND BY NECESSITY FOR NOW
ENOUGH FOR ME.

YOUR HERE
WHAT HAPPENS IN THIS MOMENT,
EVEN IF IT'S NOTHING
IS ENOUGH.

"FRIDAY"

HOW RIGHT TO LOVE YOU,
ACROSS THE ROOM
ACROSS THE SEA
AND IF NEED BE
ALL ACROSS A LIFETIME
WITH OR WITHOUT YOU.
YOUR GOING IS A FACT
YOUR TAKING YOUR LEAVE
WITH BUT A TELEPHONED GOODBYE
ALMOST A CERTAINTY.
I'LL GAIN NO UNDERSTANDING
FROM YOUR ABSENCE
AND ANY TRUTH I FALL UPON
BY MY OWN HAND
WOULD HAVE MET ME SOONER
HAD YOU BEEN BESIDE ME
TO ATTRACT AND GUIDE IT
DOWN OUR DOUBLE ROAD.

"FRIDAY AFTERNOON"

I WISH I HAD A CAMERA
TO PHOTOGRAPH THE SUNFLOWERS
SEVEN OF THEM STILL ALIVE
STARING AT THE CEILING
AS IF THE SUN SHONE THERE.

THE ABOVE IS AN
ANTHOLOGY OF POETRY
WRITTEN BY
JOHN KILLEN.

.....

LOVEBOND

there is nothing so precious
or nothing so rare
as the love that a man
and woman can share.
through joy and through laughter
through sorrow and tears
they develop a closeness
that grows through the years.
this thing that they have
need never be spoken
it;s a wonderful :LOVEBOND:
that I pray will never be broken.

Bill Fedick.

Why Do Women Cry?

- @ Women cry when they're happy; they cry when they're frustrated, disappointed, angry or criticized. They cry over victory — or defeat. They cry when they've been worried and are relieved; they cry with rage in the midst of a heated family argument — and sometimes they even cry when they're sad.
 - @ They cry to emphasize the importance of what they are thinking and feeling. Crying can be a form of emotional punctuation — a way of underlining thoughts and feelings. Women have learned it's an effective attention-getter — a way of getting a man to listen to you.
 - @ Women cry to fend off criticism. They know they can deflect fault-finding and critical remarks by shedding tears.
 - @ Women cry to dispel tension. Tears are a positive way of releasing built-up anxieties.
 - @ Women cry as a socially acceptable way of displaying anger. Traditionally it has been considered "unladylike" for a woman to — vent her anger in verbal abuse.
 - @ Women cry to elicit comfort and reassurance. There are times when she wants nothing more than to be held close and comforted. That's when a good cry, even over a trifle like a broken fingernail, is designed to bring out a man's tenderness.
 - @ Women cry to appear feminine and appealing. The surest way she has to emphasize her femininity and appear little-girl-like is by crying a few gentle tears.
- "Once you realize she's crying for many different reasons, her tears can bring you closer together."

Arline Brecher

Alcoholic Stupidity

I am a stupid man, my friend, remorseful, filled with grief
Not serving time for murder, neither for being a thief
I plunged into the bottle, with not a pause for thinking
Back in prison once again, because of senseless drinking
By the grace of God, I'm alive, now I ask for one more day
To clear my mind, cleanse my soul and to help me when I pray
I will pray for a better life, I will ask God to be my guide
Every day as I go my way, I will want him by my side
AA is the only way for me, to maintain my self-control
Without AA and my faith in Christ, I will have lost my soul
I do away with the bottle and I cast my pride aside
Had I not been taken in by the law, I surely would have died
Heed what I write alcoholic friends, look before you leap
Stop and think, call a friend, if sobriety you wish to keep
Be not ashamed to be humble, AA is for one and all
Without church, little or no help, you will surely fall
God is love, AA is strength, so do not go without
There are a good many more of us, just you look about
I am once again back on the road, of sobriety and serenity
Of all the walks of life that I choose, AA is the life for me

By Jay S.

Written in Dorchester Penitentiary

CLASSIFIED ADS COSTED \$3.00 FOR THE FIRST 10 WORDS, AND 10 CENTS FOR EACH ADDITIONAL WORD. PRISONERS AND PEOPLE GIVING SOMETHING AWAY TO OTHERS, WILL BE RUN FREE FOR THREE (3) ISSUES.

PRISON PEN PAL PROGRAM

Thousands of men, women and children serving prison sentences in prisons in all parts of the United States are desperately waiting for mail. The problem is that there are more convicts who want to write, than citizens willing or able to write to them. "Dialogue can lead to Understanding"

Free guidelines and names of prisoners are sent to anyone who writes: PRISON PEN PALS, Box 1217, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

TIGHTWIRE is published six times a year by Tightwire Publications, Prison For Women, Kingston, Ontario. The contents are compiled by the inmates' staff from a variety of sources: their own writing, those of other prisoners (both from the Prison for Women and other prisons), newspaper and magazine articles, and submissions from outside contributions.

TIGHTWIRE PUBLICATIONS
P.O. Box 515
Kingston, Ontario
K7L 4W7

"URGENT"

INMATE HAS WIFE RESIDING IN SHELburne, NOVA SCOTIA, WITHOUT TRANSPORT TO VISIT HIM IN SPRINGHILL. ANY PERSON WHO COULD OCCASIONALLY DRIVE HER HERE WOULD BE DEEPLY APPRECIATED.

PLEASE CONTACT BILL FEDICK #4638

AGAINST THE WALL: A magazine of self-liberation and voluntary alternatives. Sample copy free to prisoners. We also publish a "Penpals" column for those on the inside wishing to hear from those on the outside. Get your name and address listed free if you are in prison. AGAINST THE WALL, P.O. Box 444, Westfield, NJ 07091

PERIODICALS-BY-MAIL is a project designed to give wider accessibility to worth-while periodicals not distributed through many news-stands. For a list of over 70 alternative & small press periodicals which can be ordered by mail. Send your name, address, and 25¢ to:

PERIODICALS-BY-MAIL
A Periodical Retreat
P.O. Box 1246
Anne Arbor, MI
48106

Free 100-word Pen Pal listing for Prisoners in AFTA Magazine. Free sample issue also sent. Afta covers books, science fiction, comic books, films, rock music, political and gay rights issues. Write to: BILL-DALE MARCINKO, Editor, Afta Magazine, 153 George Street, Suite #1, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

FOTO SHOPPE

57 MAIN ST., SPRINGHILL, NOVA SCOTIA

597-2192

PHOTOGRAGHY SUPPLIES &
EXPERT DEVELOPING!

Specialists In Natural Color

FOR YOUR PLEASURE

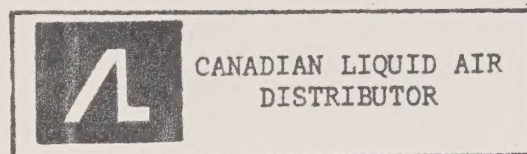


RJR MACDONALD INC.

Offering
many fine tobacco
products, for your smoking
Pleasure!



WARNING: Health and Welfare Canada - advises
that DANGER to Health increases with amount
smoked. AVOID INHALING.



HUB CITY OXYGEN LTD.

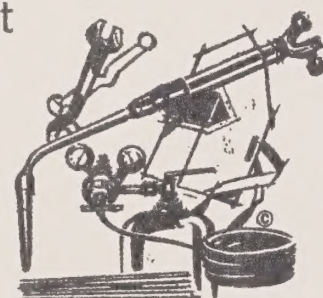
TELEX
014-2163

TELEPHONE (506) 855-2390, 153 LOFTUS ST.
MONCTON, NEW BRUNSWICK, E1E 2N3



“Specializing In”

- * C.L.A. Welding Equipment
- * C.L.A. Filler Metal Rods
- * C.L.A. Medical Equipment & Gases
- * Sodel Specialty Rods
- * Jet Tools & Equipment
- * Makita Power Tools
- * J. Walter Tools & Equipment
- * Westward Tools
- * Miller Welding Machines
- * Technical Services
- * Fibre Metal Products
- * Lenco Welding Accessories
- * R.D.W. Products
- * Helly Hansen



Associated Companies

HUB CITY PROPANE LTD.

211 PACIFIC AVE., MONCTON, NEW BRUNSWICK 855-0402

HUB CITY RENTALS LTD.

211 PACIFIC AVE., MONCTON, NEW BRUNSWICK 855-2392



COMMUNICATOR

P.O. BOX 2140, SPRINGHILL, NOVA SCOTIA B0M 1X0

CENTRE OF CRIMINOLOGY LIBRARY
Room 8001
130 St. George Street
Toronto, ON
M5S 1A5

SECOND CLASS MAIL
REGISTRATION NO. 3704

POSTAGE PAID AT SPRINGHILL, N.S. CANADA

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

